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AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

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WEEKLY

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AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

English referees under attack



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THAT
MAN
MILAN

STRIKERS CRUSH EAGLES



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What should we do with the NSL?



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Penalty shoot-outs are a waste of time

PAGE 17

find - A - STAR

★ find-A-STAR ★ find-A-STAR ★ find-A-STAR ★

R I J P M E H M E T D U R A K O V I C C
Q H O N I F P O S T L O S T I N K S P A
S T E K R T H E R M A N G A V I R I A E
A R B R G O M B F P V R A K O V I C X J
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E K C S F A N G O I N T H E P H T O N H
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T H E I N B O B B Y N I M M S V A L D A
I S I U K V E I D A S S K A L A C S F I
U S P S E M A T H I S I A M A D S H O K

★ find-A-STAR ★ find-A-STAR ★ find-A-STAR ★

and Test Your Knowledge

Answer the questions below then find the answers in the **Find-A-Star** above.

- (1) Who are the only 2 Colombian players from World Cup USA 94 to play the Socceroos?
- (2) Olympic coach Vince Estavillio is back in charge with a bigger budget to buy players.

This season which player attracted half of the scarce budget he had last year?

- (3) What is the name of the new Colombian coach?
- (4) Who's injury allowed Tony Popovic the right to make his international debut against Colombia?
- (5) Who has entered the N&L Top 6 for the first time this season?
- (6) Who has Eddie Thomson named as substitute for Mark Viduka for the Socceroos?
- (7) Who scored the 'Goal of the Week' with a spectacular 'floater' according to S&S Goal?
- (8) Who recently turned down selection in the Socceroo side?
- (9) Which former Sydney Olympic player is currently enjoying a stint in Hong Kong?
- (10) Who returned to his old club Blackburn as goalkeeper against Tottenham last week only to have 3 winning thumpers fly past him?
- (11) Which former Australian Captain come soccer commentator is being considered for the A&F Chairman job?

Answers on page 27

Compiled by Darren Alley

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FRONT PAGE PICTURE: Milan Ivanovic (Adelaide City).

STAR PROFILE

Mike Gibson NO. 30
- SYDNEY OLYMPIC -



Date of Birth: March 1, 1963
Birthplace: Katoomba
Previous Clubs: Penrith, St George, Newcastle Breakers
Position: Goalkeeper
Nickname: "Gibbo"
Marital Status: Married (to Debbie with two sons Bradley, 6 and Ryan, 1)
Occupation: Maintenance Fitter
Best Aspect Of Your Game: Reading ability and taking crosses
Worst Aspect Of Your Game: Distribution
Most Difficult Opponent: All
Most Impressive Local Player: Milan Ivanovic
Favourite Overseas Player: Mark Hughes (Manchester United's striker) and Joe Corrigan (former goalkeeper of Manchester City during the 70s)
Favourite Overseas Club: Manchester United
Honours: World Cup squad 1989, various NSW squads
Ambitions In Soccer: To enjoy and perform in Soccer to the best of my ability for as long as possible
Ambitions After Retiring: Would like to get into goal keeping coaching to help out with the youngsters.
Most Memorable Moment: The 1987 NSL Grand Final when my team St George defeated Apia 4-0 at the Parramatta Stadium after Apia had ended the entire competition undefeated
Hobbies Outside Soccer: Golf and water-skiing
Favourite Food: Pasta
Favourite Drink: Anything really
Car You Drive: Ford Falcon
Favourite TV Show: Wonder Years
Favourite Movie: "Cool Runnings"
Favourite Actor/Actress: John Wayne
Preferred Music: Most music
Least Preferred Music: Rap
Favourite Comedian: Mr Bean - Rowan Atkinson
Pet Hates: Bad losers
Person You Would Most Like To Meet: Pele

By John Economos

The big man back in Australia's attack



John Markovski: Aerial power upfront for Australia.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

John Markovski, Australia's giant striker, is almost certain to start tomorrow night (Wednesday) in Australia's clash against the touring national team of Japan.

Markovski came on in the 63rd minute to replace Damian Mori last Saturday night against Colombia at the Sydney Football Stadium, and did enough damage in the remaining 27 minutes to force Australia's coach Eddie Thomson to start with him.

But Thomson last night confessed: "At this stage I don't know who will partner Big John upfront."

"I have bracketted Damian or Warren Spink for now."

"But for sure I will retain my back-line of Tony Vidmar, Alex Tobin, Tony Popovic, Milan Ivanovic and Stan Lazaridis."

"I felt Stan gave an exceptionally good performance against the Colombians and greatly supported the attack and even almost scored."

"I am thinking of also starting with Gabriel



Eddie Thomson: National Coach.

Mendez in the midfield but I will make up my mind later after seeing them train."

Thomson feels Markovski's huge,

powerful frame plus his excellent ball-control can be used as a battering ram against Japan's defence whilst not forgetting his vicious shot in his left foot.

In deciding between Mori or Spink as to who will partner Markovski, Thomson's decision could sway towards Spink.

Spink is Markovski's club-colleague at Morwell Falcons and they know each other's characteristics.

Tomorrow's clash kicks off at 7.30pm whilst the early match at 5.30pm is between Australia's Youth side who take on Japan's Youth.



Stan Lazaridis: Excellent form against Colombians.

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD
versus

HEIDELBERG UNITED

SATURDAY NIGHT



7.30PM
MARCONI
STADIUM



Youth League
5.30PM

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Ufuk Talay



Mike Smith

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**Senate Environment,
Recreation, Communications
and the Arts References
Committee**

Soccer Inquiry

On 8 December 1994 and 2 February 1995 the Senate resolved that this Committee conduct an inquiry under the following terms of reference:

"That the Environment, Recreation, Communications and the Arts References Committee inquire into the role of coaches, players, agents, clubs, officials, and others in the transfer of Australian sportspeople, and into any other matters relating to corruption, conflicts of interest, tax evasion, and improper financial transactions, with particular reference to the sport of soccer; and review the report by the Hon. D.G. Stewart to the Australian Soccer Federation; and that the Committee report to the Senate on this matter by 11 May 1995."

The Committee invites persons and organisations wishing to express views on matters relating to this reference to lodge written submissions (which may, if necessary, be made on a confidential basis) by 28 February 1995 with:

The Secretary
Senate Environment, Recreation,
Communications and the Arts
References Committee
20-3 Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

The Committee will consider all submissions and may invite parties to give supporting evidence at public or in camera hearings. Proceedings of the Committee and its witnesses are protected by Parliamentary privilege. Submissions become the property of the Committee and are only made public after a decision by the Committee.

Further information and notes to help with preparing submissions are available from the Committee Secretary: phone (06) 277 3525, fax (06) 277 5816.

STAR PROFILE

**Paul
Wade**

NO.
31

- SOCCEROO CAPTAIN -



Date of Birth: 20th March, 1962
Birthplace: Altrincham (Manchester), England

Previous Clubs: Prahran Slavia, Croydon City, Green Gully, Brunswick Juventus

Current Club: South Melbourne

Position: Central midfielder

Nickname: "Wadey"

Marital Status: Married (Valerie) two children-Emma five years old and Brianna-Lee three years old

Occupation: Fulltime player

Best Aspect Of Your Game: High work rate and heading

Most Difficult Opponent: Diego Maradona and Paul Trimboli at training

Most Impressive Local Player: Steve Corica

Favourite Overseas Player: Jurgen Klinsmann ('Spurs' striker)

Favourite Overseas Club: Liverpool

Honours: In the national team since 1986, 'Player Of The Year 1988, captain of Australia, honoured this year with A.O.M.

Ambitions In Soccer: To play for as long as I can

Ambitions After Retiring: To remain in the game in some capacity for the rest of my life

Most Memorable Moment: Australia's World Cup qualifier against Argentina at the Sydney Football Stadium 1993.

Hobbies Outside Soccer: Golf and relaxing with our two children

Favourite Food: Fish and Chips

Favourite Drink: Tooheys Red

Car You Drive: Ford Falcon G.L.I. Wagon

Favourite TV Show: English Soccer and Models Inc

Favourite Movie: Mary Poppins (because of my children) and Mad Max

Favourite Actor/Actress: Dean Cain

Preferred Music: Top 40

Least Preferred Music: Greek music

Favourite Comedian: Billy Connolly

Pet Hates: Bad drivers and all Manchester United supporters (joking with the latter)

Advice To All Young Players: Don't ever become complacent and don't ever believe what they write about you in the media

Person You Would Most Like To Meet: The Pope

By John Economos

- St. George Class of 1972 -

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Back Row (left to right): Marty Treasure, John Stoddart, Jimmy Herron, Harry Williams, Willie Hamilton, Neville Morgan, Fabian Juhasz, Barry Harris, Bendan Grosse, Alan Ainslie (now with Wests).
Front Row: Denis Donovan, Mike Denton, Atti Abonyi, Bobby Hogg, Johnny Warren, Frank Arok (Manager-Coach), Manfred Schaefer, Adrian Alston, George Harris, Doug Utjesenovic, Jimmy Fraser.

ST. GEORGE TREAD NEW WATERS

No soccer club in this country has a history as rich or as colourful as St George. The club has always been a breeding ground for future talent, and held more national team players in the 1974 World Cup bid than any other side.

Although assorted problems over the years have seen the club take a back seat, 1995 promises to be a different year, with a new focus. The club was readmitted to the NSW State Super League after impressing the NSW Soccer Federation with a distinctly professional presentation.

Now the aim is to be a club that is truly a part of the St George district, with the emphasis on the family.

To celebrate the new-look St George, the club is holding a launch on Saturday the 25th of this month at their headquarters in Mortdale. For \$50 a head, or \$40 a head for a table of 8, 10 or 12 guests will receive a full dinner, beer and wine and a band later in the evening.

The guest speaker for the evening is 'Noddy' Alston, a past national team member, who competed in Australia's 1974 World Cup bid. The new club strip will also be paraded during the course of

the night, giving supporters a chance to see how the '95 team will look.

Tickets are still available from the club by calling Veronica on 579-6977, or by calling in at 84 Victoria Avenue, Mortdale.

The night represents a new road for St George, and you are encouraged to come along and show your support for your club. St George have shown they are committed to success and to developing a rapport with the supporters in the area. With a new coach, new players and a new professionalism, they will carry that success onto the playing arena.

MITCHELL SPAT ON

Australian international striker David Mitchell was knocked to the ground and spat on in a crowd riot after his Millwall side knocked Chelsea out of the FA Cup in a penalty shoot-out last week.

"I was pushed over and spat at," Mitchell said.

"It was a little frightening." Teammate Alex Rae said: "I saw Dave get thumped. The Chelsea fans couldn't control themselves."

First division Millwall won the fourth round replay at premier league Chelsea's Stamford Bridge ground in West London 5-4 on penalties after extra-time failed to break a 1-1 deadlock.

As soon as Millwall clinched its win, angry Chelsea fans broke through stewards and police and stormed on to



David Mitchell: Frightened.

the ground. Mounted police stopped serious violence on the pitch, but running fights continued for some time in the terraces. Police arrested 38 people.

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COLOMBIAN GOALKEEPERS STARVE AUSTRALIA

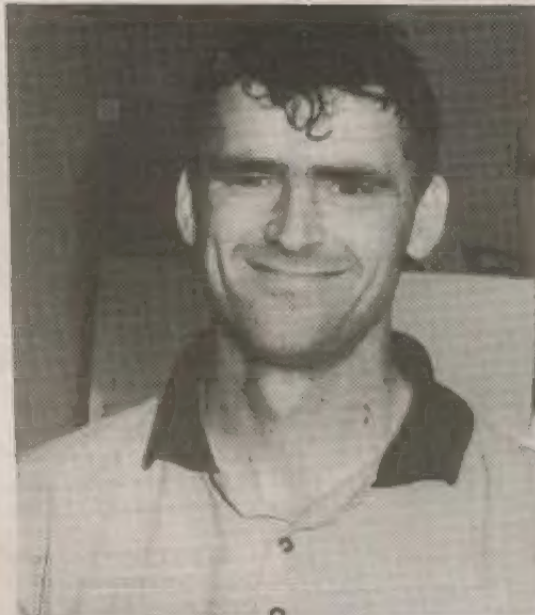
BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Colombia's two World Cup goalkeepers, Rene Higuita and Oscar Cordoba defiantly denied Australia at least four certain goals (two in each half) last Saturday night at the Sydney Football Stadium to send the Socceroos plunging to their first home loss in nearly four years.

Not since Australia's 0-1 defeat against England back in June 1991 has Australia lost at home.

The flamboyant 1990 World Cup star Higuita, made two spectacular saves in the first half from hot shots fired by striker Warren Spink and attacking left-back Stan Lazaridis in the 41st and 45th minutes.

In the second half, despite Higuita being replaced by 1994 Cup 'keeper Cordoba, the latter continued the



Alex Tobin: Missed a penalty.

'Colombian Defiance' by stopping Australian captain Alex Tobin's penalty shot in the 69th minute by a foul on

Spink inside the box, plus another save from Spink's six-metre effort in the 81st minute.

Australia was on fire in both sessions but the Colombian custodians proved to be more than super-efficient 'fire-fighters' extinguishing every threatening Aussie blaze.

A well rehearsed Colombian free-kick chipped through, found lanky striker Hamilton Ricard busting through a square Aussie defence and rounding towering goalkeeper Zeljko Kalac on the first post to fire home despite Tony Popovic's desperate pivoting lunge to clear the goal-line.

A highly mobile Australian attack consisting of Vidmar, Lazaridis, Corica, Mori and Spink, had the Colombians on the back foot for almost the entire match.

However, Australia's new twin-midfield duo, Jason Polak and Steve Horvat, struggled to assert its authority and provide quality service and direction



forward.

With the introduction of the dynamic ball wizard Gabriel Mendez in the last 18 minutes, Australia's architectural qualities dramatically strengthened.

A Mendez thunderbolt fired from 25 metres exploded onto Cordoba's chest before the 'keeper could even bring his gloves in on the 'cannon-ball'.

It's most obvious now that National Coach Eddie Thomson has blue-printed a new style for Australia, based on high mobility with plenty of support play coming through from wide.

Australia's durability levels following sustained mobile attacks have dramatically changed over the last 18 months by Thomson's strategies.

More Polish in the finishing department will yield Australia unprecedented dividends in the arena.

An obviously disappointed with the scoreline, but pleased performance-wise, Thomson, reflected: "We had many chances and if we keep creating them we must soon score. I was very happy with Lazaridis, Popovic, Markovski when he came on, and Corica.

"Colombia's small triangular play was vastly different to the tougher, open game played by Argentina."

Colombian coach Gomez, reflected: "The game was even as both sides made chances but Australia couldn't put theirs away.

"Australia is a very tough opponent," ended Gomez.

This was easily Lazaridis' best performance for Australia and Markovski caused much damage when he came on.



Gabriel Mendez: Fired a thunderbolt but the goalkeeper got in the way.

BALMAIN F.C.

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AUSTRALIA: Kalac, Vidmar, Tobin, Popovic, Ivanovic, Lazaridis, Polak, Horvat (Mendez 72nd), Mori (Markovski 63rd), Spink, Corica.
COLOMBIA: Higuita (Cordoba 46th), Santa, Fernandez, Bermudez, Botero, Pancheco, Gaviria, Mosquera, Betancourt (Quinones 65th), Gomez, Ricard.
SCORER: Ricard 66th for Colombia.
YELLOW CARDS: Polak 70th for Aust and Mosquera 10th, Betancourt 43rd, Pancheco 75th for Colombia.

STAR PROFILE

Jason Polak

NO. 32

- SOCCEROO -



Date of Birth: January 9th, 1968
Birthplace: Townsville, Queensland
Previous Clubs: A.I.S. Sydney Olympic, Panathinaikos (Greek 1st Div), Kortrijk (Belgium), De Graafschap (Holland)
Current Club: South Melbourne
Position: Anywhere across the midfield
Nickname: "Jay"
Marital Status: Married (Jane) with Rose our four month old daughter
Occupation: Administrator for Football Superannuation with National Mutual
Best Aspect Of Your Game: Distribution and vision, all-round ability
Most Difficult Opponent: Kevin my brother in backyard battles back home
Most Impressive Local Player: Milan Ivanovic
Favourite Overseas Player: Johan Cruyff
Favourite Overseas Club: Ajax of Amsterdam
Honours: Youth team and Socceroos since 1989
Ambitions In Soccer: To enjoy myself for as long as possible
Ambitions After Retiring: To remain connected with the game
Most Memorable Moment: The goal I scored against South Africa last year and playing in European Cup matches with Greek side Panathinaikos against Dynamo Bucharest
Hobbies Outside Soccer: Fishing
Favourite Food: Veal Schnitzel
Favourite Drink: Fruit Cup cordial
Car You Drive: Ford Telstar TX-5
Favourite TV Show: Seinfeld
Favourite Movie: The last one I saw
Favourite Actor/Actress: Denzel Washington and Meg Ryan
Preferred Music: Andrew Lloyd Webber plus a wide variety
Least Preferred Music: Techno
Favourite Comedian: Jerry Seinfeld
Pet Hates: Abusive supporters.
Special Advice To Young Players: Enjoy your Soccer and you will go further in it
Person You Would Most Like To Meet: Pele

By John Economos



Sydney Cosmos is a new club in the soccer arena. Established to serve all.

Sports fans, soccer enthusiasts and those who just want to have fun with the world's greatest game. "COSMOS" meaning "world or universe," is our club's aim: to unite the people of Sydney in the international sport of SOCCER. Sydney Cosmos invites the soccer community and public to try something new and innovative. Talented soccer players seeking a professional club are invited to trial with the Sydney Cosmos.

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SAME OLD COVERAGE

I am writing this letter in order to voice my concern over the fact that not all teams in the NSL are being allowed fair television or radio broadcasting.

I would like to know why Adelaide City, South Melbourne and Morwell Falcons are constantly being broadcast as match of the day. I understand that it may have a lot to do with ratings, as these teams perhaps have the most viewers, and or listeners. But I feel that the other teams such as; Melbourne Knights, Heidelberg and Melbourne Zebras etc are being left out.

They too have fans and feel the need to see and hear how their team is progressing. Perhaps, more radio stations should be set up, or even an extra segment of 'Match of the Day'.

Kathy Miklic,
Craigieburn, Vic.

FOOTBALL! FOOTBALL! FOOTBALL!

...NOT SOCCER

Further to my letter regarding the 'Socceroos/Olyroos' nonsense, I have come up with a marvellous alternative suggestion. I suggest that the former Socceroos be referred to as the AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM!

You see, that is who they are! They are the ONLY, 'national football team,' this country has! The 'Kangaroos' represent only New South Wales and Queensland, at a sport which is officially called 'Rugby League'.

Whereas, Aussie Rules — only in Victoria and possibly, South and Western Australia. Anyway, they don't have a national team because there is no one to play against!

The name 'Soccer' is only a nickname, which has got a bit out of hand in the USA and Australia. The game is controlled by the Federation of International FOOTBALL Associations and is known as 'football' EVERYWHERE in the world, except USA and Australia, which make up approximately 5% of its population.

Also, the word 'soccer' in these two countries has become a bit like 'nigger'. It's okay between us brother, but when Gridiron, Aussie Rules or Rugby League fans say it, they often don't mean it nice man.

So come on you niggers, let's start calling a spade a spade! WE, follow FOOTBALL as well as soccer!

Lets demand that the new regime which is soon to follow Con The Frustrator and Co, begin by changing the game's image at the top. Lets lay the roots to rest!

Shoot the bastards, eat them, or pat them on the head — but don't bloody well support them! Leave that to the other lot!

Henry Wiggler,
Forestville, NSW

LETS TAKE ACTION

Kathy Miklic's reply (letters 31/1) to my letter of 17/1 totally misses the point.

I did not advocate (nor did I even imply) that we get rid of ethnic supporters in our game. What did she think I meant, that stormtroopers "filter" the crowd at the gate, only allowing blonde-haired, blue-eyed, Anglo-Australians into the grounds? Give me a break!

(I also challenge her assertion that only a few "Anglo-Australians" turned up at the Olyroo tournament to "support their team").

The point I was making is that if soccer in Australia is to survive it must broaden its corporate, sponsor and supporter base. I believe ethnic divisions prevent this.

Perhaps this point is best illustrated through the words of Zoran Matic (Sunday Mail 1/1): "When I arrived here 21 years ago I was amazed that certain people wanted to live and play football as if they were still in their home country."

"I could barely speak English, but felt like saying: 'This is (expletive). If you don't want to fit into your new country, get on a plane and go home'."

"Unfortunately a few idiots still pursuing this course means it will be another 15 years before this ethnic rubbish is cleaned out of soccer here."

Our game does not have "another 15 years", action must be taken now. Soccer needs supporters from all backgrounds but get rid of the flags, get rid of the associated divisions, they do our game a great disservice preventing it from appealing to the masses and finding its place at the top of Australia's sporting tree where it belongs.

Stephen Plummer,
Caloundra, Qld.

WHAT A FARCE!

Just a small point, what was the point of the four points system and penalty shoot-out. Using the table of the 29th January 1995, I show below the table based on four points etc compared to that of three points a win one point a draw.

	Pts 4	3 WIN 1
WIN	EQ	DRAW
Adelaide City	44	33
Melb Knights	43	32
Sydney Utd	35	25
West Adelaide	35	25
Wollongong	30	22
Parramatta	27	20
Brisbane	26	19
Sth Melbourne	25	18
Morwell	23	19
Sydney Olympic	21	16
Marconi	20	14
Melbourne SC	19	13
Heidelberg	9	7

As can be seen one minor difference — Morwell would be above South Melbourne but the top six unchanged, so please ASF cancel this farce of the penalty shoot-out.

J. Shapcott,
Traralgon Vic.

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



South Melbourne players celebrate a goal: The club caused the ire of at least one fan in its match against Wollongong recently.

THE WINNER IS... SYDNEY!

I am writing to say, that over the years I think soccer has leaned over to one state. All soccer's promotion, glamour, and decision is in Sydney!

e.g. * ASF headquarters is based in Sydney

* SBS is based in Sydney

* First choice to host International games goes to Sydney

Over the past five years, I think Melbourne has been treated poorly over all decisions involving Australian and International soccer.

Until this becomes even, soccer in Australia will never improve or be recognised. Melbourne is the sporting capital of Australia, having the biggest crowds in cricket, football and even Sydney's Rugby League. Soccer has probably been down over the years due to lack of promotion or simply because the ASF thinks it will have bigger crowds in Canberra or Brisbane rather than Melbourne for an International.

How many times have Melbourne clubs appeared on SBS soccer, compared to Sydney's clubs? Not many. The last big local derby against the Knights and South Melbourne produced about 9,000 people and one of the best entertaining games of the season but wasn't even shown on SBS.

I think a great way of promoting Aussie soccer is to have the state of origin games reproduced e.g. Melbourne vs Sydney or Adelaide.

I think the rivalry would be great and people would flock to see their state win.

If Aussie soccer stays like this, then we might as well change the ASF to Sydney SF.

Rob Gavic, Rosanna, Vic.

WHAT AN ABSOLUTE JOKE

What an outrage, or what a mockery is more appropriate! It was Round 17 at the South Melbourne vs Wollongong match. South Melbourne displayed a flagrant disrespect to the Bradley report rules and regulations outlined by our national body.

We saw Con Boutsianis do the sign of the cross Greek fashion after blitzing a goal and at half-time ethnic based music was played on the PA system.

It undoubtedly goes without saying that South Melbourne have maintained a relatively consistent standard of excellence, perseverance, professionalism and financial stability with a support foundation only dreamed about by other clubs.

Nonetheless, time and time again we have seen clubs such as South Melbourne exclusively make token efforts to heighten themselves to the general public concentrating rather on their own community based pockets.

Despite this, our games' officials would like us to believe that under such instances clubs welcome all although realistically it is no wonder a 'neutral' attending a match would feel somewhat alienated. With the exception of a few, most clubs scramble to maintain an average of 3500 spectators per game.

What a joke when compared to other mainstream sports such as football which averages 28,624 per game or basketball a 8,500 average. Soccer is the number one sport world wide yet in Australia it ranks with Women's lacrosse.

Brooke Cooke, Essendon, Vic.

BRING BACK BRUSASCO

I suggest Ian Brusasco be recalled immediately to head up the new look ASF.

The man responsible for getting the 1993 World Youth Cup to Australia and a whole host of structural changes to the ASF during his reign (Bradley Report, new ASF headquarters), plus his clean image in the business community of Queensland all factors in Brusasco's favour.

As for Neville Wran's suggestion that the likes of George Negus or David Hill be drafted to commissioners role — why not Ray Martin, Liz Hayes or Steve Vizard or for that matter Fatty Vautin.

And David Hill the man who put Soccer off the ABC — remember? Also a much missed point on the so called \$2 million profit.

Over \$1.5m of that came from Government grants and a substantial part from Argentina or more correctly Diego. Even more correctly Colombia, whose 5-0 defeat of Argentina meant we played Argentina and not Colombia and that Diego returned for the Australian matches.

And on that point what is \$2 million dollars profit when we sold out to play at home first which ultimately cost Australia a place in USA '94.

Tom Grigor,
Clayfield, Qld

JOHNNY GETS CONFIDENCE VOTE

I have said it before and I am saying it again Johnny Warren has to be involved in soccer at a higher level.

An opportunity has arisen which would see him fulfill exactly this wish, and I am giving him my vote of confidence.

I have been listening to him for many years now and this man's heart is in the right place as far as Australian soccer and the future of the game goes.

I believe he will be a good representative of the soccer public, he is on the same wave length as many soccer supporters throughout this country of ours.

Whenever he speaks he echoes the thoughts and wishes of all soccer supporters who would like to see soccer prosper.

It is time for change. We need new blood in the sport so come on all you soccer loving supporters, stand up and be counted, let us have a say in which direction the sport should take. Lets get behind Johnny Warren.

I believe we can turn all this doom and gloom into possibly the greatest moment in the history of the sport in this country. Out with the old and in with the new. It's time to rebuild a stronger vehicle for soccer to ride upon and take the sport to its true potential.

Paul Bottari,
Balcatta, WA.



SOCCEROOS TO STAY

It is obvious that Henry Wiggler of Forestville has only just landed in Australia after living on the planet Mars for the last 30 years.

That is the only conclusion I can reach after reading his imbecilic claim that the name Socceroos is the real reason why the game is not the number one code in Australia and therefore should be dropped.

If people like Mr Wiggler want to follow Australian sport they should first go to a library and read the history of this country and its associated sports.

First, the so-called "masters" i.e. England did not bestow nicknames like Springboks, Wallabies, Kiwi's on the "colonial" teams in an effort to belittle them.

These names were chosen and voted on many years ago during their original tours by the players themselves!

Secondly, anyone who knows anything about marketing will tell you that the names of Australia's sporting teams like Kangaroos (rugby league) Wallabies (rugby union) and Socceroos (soccer) are worth MILLIONS of dollars over a 12-month period.

Thirdly, the reason virtually all national teams have a derivation of Kangaroo is because... surprise surprise... it's the national animal of Australia and unique to this country!

Why... surprise surprise again... it's even on the national Coat of Arms which every Australian has on their passport and on the breast of every national uniform in all sports including the Olympics.

The same Coat of Arms that Michael Slater kisses every time he makes a century!

Why do people keep looking for some bizarre reason why soccer is not number one in Australia (like the claims last year that it's because it's called soccer in this country and football in Europe!) Instead of looking for the good things the game has and building on them.

Socceroos, Olyroos and Joeys are fantastic nick names and will be increasingly worth millions in the years ahead.

You only have to travel overseas regularly like I do to know how much these names and others like the Wallabies, Kangaroos and Hockeyroos are identified immediately with Australia and how much respect and admiration they all engender.

All we need now is a green and gold flag with a Kangaroo and our national symbols will be perfect!

T.C. Luchetti,
Lane Cove, NSW.

HIGUITA PRAISES AUSTRALIA

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Rene Higuita, Colombia's unorthodox goalkeeper and captain who greatly deprived Australia of a convincing win last Saturday night at the Sydney Football Stadium, was almost reluctantly complimentary to our national team's performance when we briefly spoke to him after the match.

ABSW asked the dreadlocked-acrobatic 'keeper just how he rated Australia's style and performance?

Seemingly surprised, Higuita answered: "Your players created many chances which really surprised us."

"Australia created far more chances than we were able to and in reality they should have won the match."

"You have a very competitive side."

The unorthodox and flamboyant Higuita, who



Rene Higuita: Reading a copy of ABSW with himself on the front page.

relishes flying out of his penalty-area arrogantly exhibiting his dribbling skills, played only the first half just to please the Sydney crowd.

But Colombia's coach Hernan Gomez, surprised Australia when he replaced his goalkeeping super-star at half-time to bring on for the second session

Colombia's USA '94 World Cup custodian, Oscar Cordoba.

But prior to his departure, Higuita had already severely dented Australia's certain road to victory in that first session with two spectacular blocks.

The first came in the 41st minute when Australia's explosive striker Warren Spink gathered in a perfect Steve Corica square ball into the six-yard box. But from almost point-blank range "Sid" fired on target only to watch in horror the elastic Higuita dive sharply to his right to make an incredible block.

Only two minutes later the hurling body of Higuita again ignited into action and denied the Australians much needed blood.

Higuita's electrifying dive blocked Stan Lazaridis' left-footed missile blasted first time from 25 metres after meeting an excellent Tony Vidmar cross from the right.

Police hold Saad over bribery scandals

Australian star Abbas Saad, who plays for Singapore in the Malaysian Premier League, was held for two days as part of an investigation into a widespread bribery and match-fixing scandal, a newspaper reported last week.

Saad was picked up from his home after midnight last Tuesday and questioned for about 48 hours by officers of the Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau, the New Paper tabloid reported.

Saad, 28, joined Singapore in 1990 after buying out his contract with Australian club Sydney Olympic.

He is one of the most valued players in the Singapore team after captain Fandi Ahmad.

Saad scored three straight goals to lead Singapore to a 4-0 victory over the Malaysian state of Pahang in last year's Malaysia Cup final, which climaxed the tainted Premier League around-the-year matches.

The scandal surfaced in August after police arrested and charged another foreign import, Michal Vana of the Czech Republic, with accepting bribes from bookmakers to fix matches in the Premier League, a popular engagement between state teams of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

The two neighbouring countries participate because they are too small to have their own leagues.

Some time after his arrest, Vana jumped bail and fled Singapore.

In the meantime, a sweeping investigation had begun in Malaysia, where corruption was more evident.

The Malaysian police believe bookmakers paid players hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes to fix results.

So far about 90 players from different state teams have been arrested. Although none have been charged, officials say many have confessed to taking bribes.

In Singapore, a soccer referee is already in jail for accepting bribes from bookmakers.

And, a striker and a club soccer team manager have been charged with corruption and are facing trial.

STAR PROFILE

Zeljko Kalac

NO. 33

- SOCCEROO -



Date of Birth: December 16th, 1972
Birthplace: Sydney
Previous Clubs: Bosna, Nepean
Current Club: Sydney United
Position: Striker-then converted to goalkeeper
Nickname: "Spider"
Marital Status: Single
Occupation: Full-time player
Best Aspect Of Your Game: Aerial dominance and organiser
Most Difficult Opponent: David Seal
Most Impressive Local Player: Tony Popovic and Mark Babic
Favourite Overseas Player: Schimichael and Prudhomme
Favourite Overseas Club: Manchester United
Honours: All Australian levels
Ambitions in Soccer: To play at the highest level possible at all times
Ambitions After Retiring: To stay in the game.
Most Memorable Moment: Winning the NSL's 'Goalkeeper Of The Year' award last season
Hobbies Outside Soccer: Golf and Tennis
Favourite Food: Anything at all
Favourite Drink: Anything
Car You Drive: Commodore V.I.
Favourite TV Show: Home Improvement
Favourite Movie: Top Gun
Favourite Actor/Actress: Bruce Willis and Demi Moore
Preferred Music: All Top stuff
Least Preferred Music: Heavy Metal
Favourite Comedian: Eddie Murphy and Manis Lamond
Pet Hates: Smokers
Special Advice To Young Players: Stick with it and train very hard
Person You Would Most Like To Meet: Mike Tyson

By John Economos

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NSW SUPER LEAGUE

Listed below are the confirmed signings and transfers of players to NSW Super League clubs for the 1995 season.

PLAYER	FROM	TO
Steve Karavatakis	Stanmore Hawks	St George Saints
Alex Araujo	Mt Druitt Town Rangers	St George Saints
Greg Lerond	Rockdale Suns	Sutherland Shire Sharks
Tony Gigliotti	Mt Druitt Town Rangers	Blacktown City Demons
Mark Moffett	Macarthur Rams	Blacktown City Demons
Kirk Westbrook	Newcastle Breakers	Sutherland Shire Sharks
Adam Whan	Mt Druitt Town Rangers	Blacktown City Demons
Bob Casserley	Mt Druitt Town Rangers	Leichhardt Tigers
Eddie Clune	Mt Druitt Town Rangers	Leichhardt Tigers
Tony Cabassi	Rockdale Suns	Sutherland Shire Sharks
Grant Bard	Rockdale Suns	Sutherland Shire Sharks
John Cosentino	Western Suburbs Strikers	Leichhardt Tigers
Franco Cosentino	Mt Pritchard	Leichhardt Tigers
Scott Baillie	Bankstown City Lions	Macarthur Rams
Steve Sweeney	Blacktown City Demons	Macarthur Rams

BAILLIE JOINS THE RAMS

Attacking midfielder Scott Baillie has signed for newly promoted club Macarthur Rams for the 1995 Super League season. The Rams completed the transfer with his former club, the Bankstown City Lions last week. Baillie was an influential figure in the Lions winning the 1993 and 1994 Championships and is easily the Rams number one signing. His excellent goalscoring record over the past few seasons will be a huge bonus for the Rams after the departure of last season's First Division leading goalscorer Mark Moffett to Blacktown City Demons.

THE SAINTS SIGN TWO

St George Saints back in the Super League after a season in the First Division have received a big boost for 1995 with the signing of two strikers during the week. Steve Karavatakis, the diminutive striker from Stanmore joined the Saints to link up with coach Peter Katholos. Joining Karavatakis will be Alex Araujo from Mt Druitt Town Rangers. Araujo scored eight goals for Rangers last season.

DEMONS SNARE TALENTED TRIO

Blacktown City Demons quest to recapture the Super League Premiership crown has seen them very active in pre-season recruitment. Leading First Division goalscorer last season Mark Moffett, has made the move across town from Macarthur Rams. Moffett netted 24 goals for the

Rams last year and should prove a worthwhile replacement for Lawrie McKinna who unfortunately won't be playing with the Demons due to business reasons. Coach Ken Schembri has also picked up two young players from the Mt Druitt club, they being Tony Gigliotti and Adam Whan. Schembri rates these players very highly especially when you consider they did not cost him a cent.

TIGERS SIGN ANOTHER

Leichhardt Tigers picked up probably there most important signing to date, with the acquisition of Tiger Tim as this mascot for 1995. Tiger Tim was previously with the Balmain Rugby League team, however his nine year association with them came to a sudden end. Tiger Tim's happy-go-lucky nature is sure to win the hearts of the Leichhardt Tigers supporters and is a step in the right direction in there quest for former glories.

MORE TIGER TALK

The Tigers have secured a 10 year lease on Lambert Park. After lengthy negotiations with council the lease was secured and as part of that lease, council has agreed to upgrade the lights for night fixtures. The Tigers plan to play about five games under lights at Lambert Park in 1995, a first for the club at this ground.

Craig King the outstanding young central defender has agreed terms with the club for 1995. The Tigers have also secured the services of Blacktown City midfielder Paul Bourke for 1995, with the two clubs left to work out a suitable fee.

News shortly, of two NSL players that will be with the Tigers in '95 and possibly a third could also be heading Leichhardt way. Thai Airways have come to the party and will sponsor the Tigers Player of the Year Award. The winner will receive two return tickets to Europe.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

TOM MARAS RETURNS TO ASIA

BY RICHARD KREIDER

With Perth now not likely to enter the National Soccer League competition until 1996, State and Perth SC (formerly Italia) goalkeeper Tom Maras is the latest WA player to head overseas. The talented 'keeper has decided to try out with Malaysian League side Kuala Lumpur.

Maras, who turned down an invitation to play with Adelaide City, but recently had trials with English club Sheffield United, is no stranger to the Asian soccer scene, having already played there with Hong Kong club Happy Valley last year.

On the plus side, Perth have managed to secure former North Perth Croatia and Perth Kangaroo players Ray Marinovic and Vlado Beretovac.

National Soccer League followers will have to wait another season before they see a WA side participating in the competition, according to the Soccer Administration of WA and Arena Investments — the consortium holding the Perth License.

"I don't know where people got the perception that we were definitely entering the NSL this year," said Arena spokesman Paul Afkos. "It was always going to be 1996," he said.

"When we initially advertised, it was for a team to go in next season," said SAWA Chief Executive officer Roger Lefort. "But with the admission negotiations still going on, we still need at least 18 months to prepare ourselves professionally, especially with items like ground facilities, sponsors and management to organise. Naturally, we are impatient, but you don't rush into something like this to possibly end up making fools of yourselves."

We acknowledge that the 'Stewart Enquiry' is on everyone's mind at the moment, but I have spoken to the Australian Soccer Federation CEO Ian Holmes, and he has advised me that we should get confirmation of our entry after the next Commissioners meeting, which is in two weeks time," said Lefort.

The year 1996 will not be unique for WA's possible National League debut, but it is also the official centenary year for Western Australian soccer.

STIRLING ISSUE EARLY WARNING

Stirling has begun its 1995 campaign in stylish fashion with a victory over Spearwood Dalmatinac in the Charity Cup at their Macedonia Park ground last Sunday.

The stylish 2-1 win was sweet revenge for the Lions, after having gone down to Spearwood in last years D'Orsogna Cup — a result which denied them a clean sweep of all available silverware.

The Charity Cup, organised by the Osborne Park rotary club, is run on similar lines as that of the English League, where the top division league champions take on the knock-out cup winners as a curtain raiser to the forthcoming season.

It took only six minutes for Stirling to find the net,

when youngster John Nicolaou finished off a defence splitting pass from Scott Devine, by drilling the ball home from 15 metres.

The home side went further ahead 10 minutes before the break through Trim Morgan who has returned to the club after a two-year stint in Hong Kong.

Despite a spirited first-half performance, Spearwood were never able to break through until seconds from the end, when Derek Combe converted a penalty.

NOTTS FOREST COULD STILL VISIT

The on again, off again saga concerning a Nottingham Forest visit appears to be on again with promoters Sport Works now planning to stage the game at the WACA on May 27, possibly against either the Socceroos or Olyroos.

Forest have already secured a game against Adelaide City, which is currently pencilled in for Wednesday May 24 at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Despite the glut of international soccer in Perth over the next few months, there are now plans of a visit



by Ghana, who could face the Socceroos at the WACA on June 11.

"Frankly, I don't think we can get enough of it," said Soccer Administration of WA Director John O'Connell after being asked if all this activity might be too much for Perth to handle. "When the opportunities are presented to you, it's very hard to knock them back," he said.

"SAWA President, Lou Ricci is putting together a proposal that will see one of the qualifying legs of the 2000 Olympics soccer competition here. If these games coming up are well supported, then I believe we will have a strong case to put forward," said O'Connell.

The intended Perth tour of Malaysian League side Perlis has had to be called off due to a number of players being held for questioning over the latest bribery scandal.

Sabah, last years Malaysian League runner-up, are unaffected by the controversy, and still expected to tour with ex-Socceroo Scott Ollerenshaw later this month.

GEORGE IS THE BEST

Soccer superstar George Best is keen to conduct coaching clinics in Australia.

The former Manchester United winger met Adelaide City "Vice President" and South Australian Labor Leader Mike Rann in London during a recent visit Mr Rann had taken his nine-year-old son David to Stamford Bridge to see Manchester United play Chelsea, where George Best lives.

Mike presented George Best with an Adelaide City player's shirt, and told the soccer legend about Adelaide City's triumphs under coach Zoran Matic.

The controversial Best — former British and European "Footballer of the Year" — was a key part of Sir Matt Busby's championship team which won the European Cup in 1968. He later played in the US soccer league with other legends Pele, Eusebio, Beckenbauer, Cruyff and Bobby Moore.

Mr Rann said George Best had the fondest memories of visits to Adelaide, and of Manchester United's tour of Australia and New Zealand in the 1960s.

"But he is well aware of how Australian soccer had improved since the 1960s when United ran up massive victories — with many goals scored by Best and team-mate Bobby Charlton.



George Best: Being presented with an Adelaide City strip by SA Labour leader Mike Rann and his son David.

"George Best is now a top soccer commentator on satellite television and on London radio. He also joins fellow soccer star Rodney Marsh as a speaker at football club dinners and events in Britain and overseas. He keeps in close touch with United and is a big fan of Eric

Cantona.

"Best clearly loves coaching and encouraging kids to develop their individuality as well as team soccer skills. He is keenly sought after in Europe for soccer clinics, and he would love to be part of Australia's soccer future," Mr Rann said.

AUBURN UNITED SOCCER CLUB

"Auburn United Soccer Club which plays at NSW Soccer Federation First Division is seeking U/18, U/21 and First Grade players.

Training will be held at Auburn Mona Park on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 6.30pm.

Players who wish to attend training, please contact one of the following numbers.

Mike Johnson..(02) 525-5811
Kadri Sertbas ..(02) 871-3467
Club House.....(02) 682-4770





FINAL WHISTLE



NSL
IN REVIEW

ABSW

NSL TABLE

as of February 12, 1995

	P	W	D	PW	L	F	A	Pts
Melbourne Knights	16	11	2	1	3	30	14	47
Adelaide City	16	10	4	1	2	26	10	45
Sydney United	15	8	4	3	3	18	11	39
West Adelaide	17	7	5	3	5	20	21	36
Wollongong City	17	7	4	2	6	28	24	34
Brisbane Strikers	17	6	5	3	6	21	15	32
South Melbourne	16	6	3	2	7	31	26	29
Parramatta Eagles	17	6	2	1	9	16	21	27
Morwell Falcons	15	3	10	3	2	19	19	25
Melbourne SC	16	4	5	4	7	15	28	25
Marconi Fairfield	17	3	6	3	8	17	24	21
Sydney Olympic	17	4	4	1	9	16	26	21
Heidelberg United	16	3	2	1	11	12	30	15
W	—	WIN						4 Points
D	—	DRAW						1 Point
PW	—	PENALTY WIN						1 Bonus Point
L	—	LOSS						0

LEADING GOALSCORERS

10 Damien Mori(Adelaide City)	3 Brad Maloney(Sydney Olympic)
10 Ivan Kelic(South Melbourne)	3 Andrew Marth(Melbourne Knights)
10 Mark Viduka(Melbourne Knights)	3 Gabriel Mendez(Parramatta)
8 Con Boutsianis(South Melbourne)	3 Ante Milicic(Sydney United)
8 Vaughan Coveny(Wollongong)	3 Andrew Vlahos(Heidelberg)
6 Brian Bothwell(Morwell)	3 Chris Zoricich(Brisbane)
6 Pablo Cardozo(West Adelaide)	2 Shaun Babic(Sydney United)
6 Joe Spiteri(Melbourne Knights)	2 Dave Barrett(Sydney Olympic)
5 Rod Brown(Brisbane)	2 Matt Bingley(Marconi)
5 Craig Foster(Adelaide City)	2 Joe Biskic(Melbourne Knights)
5 Chris Slater(Brisbane)	2 Andrew Brayshaw(Parramatta)
5 Paul Trimboli(South Melbourne)	2 Angelo Colombo(Marconi)
5 David Zdrilic(Sydney United)	2 Brad Ditton(Brisbane)
4 Martin Akers(Wollongong)	2 John Gibson(Adelaide City)
4 Francis Awaritefe(South Melbourne)	2 Scott Gilbert(Parramatta)
4 Joe Bacak(Sydney Olympic)	2 Andy Harper(Marconi)
4 Adrian Cervinski(Wollongong)	2 Matt Horsley(Wollongong)
4 Robert Despotovski(Heidelberg)	2 Alan Hunter(Brisbane)
4 Geoff Gunning(Parramatta)	2 Lupe Lapsansky(Melbourne Knights)
4 John Markovski(Morwell)	2 Manis Lamond(Sydney United)
4 Joe Mullen(Adelaide City)	2 Heremai Ngata(Melbourne S C)
4 C. Ndongo-Keller(West Adelaide)	2 Mike O'Shea(Wollongong)
4 Andrew Zinni(Melbourne S C)	2 Brendan Renaud(Parramatta)
3 Lachlan Armstrong(Morwell)	2 Mark Rudan(Sydney United)
3 Pat Bradley(Wollongong)	2 Mark Silic(Melbourne Knights)
3 Danny Gnjidic(Heidelberg)	2 Marshall Soper(Marconi)
3 Robbie Hooker(West Adelaide)	2 Kim Taliadoros(Marconi)
3 Jose Iriarte(West Adelaide)	2 Joe Tricarico(Melbourne S C)

ABSW Pascoe Vale Sports Scene

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Jim Mac Donald: (H) (02) 887-1324

(W) (02) 560-7566

Applications in writing to:

The Secretary
Ryde City Soccer Club
P.O. Box 391
North Ryde 2113

20 — Matt Horsley(Wollongong)	7 — Mike Gibson(Sydney Olympic)
19 — Danny Tiatto(Melbourne Knights)	7 — Goran Lozanovski(Adelaide City)
17 — Milan Ivanovic(Adelaide City)	7 — Jason Petkovic(Adelaide City)
13 — Stan Lazaridis(West Adelaide)	6 — Con Boutsianis(South Melbourne)
12 — Mark Babic(Sydney United)	6 — Rod Brown(Brisbane)
12 — Dave Barrett(Sydney Olympic)	6 — Tony Franken(Parramatta)
12 — Paul Della Rocca(Melbourne S C)	6 — Brad Hassell(Adelaide City)
12 — C. Ndongo-Keller(West Adelaide)	6 — Alan Hunter(Brisbane)
11 — Walter Ardone(Heidelberg)	6 — Manis Lamond(Sydney United)
11 — David Cervinski(Melbourne Knights)	6 — Gabriel Mendez(Parramatta)
11 — Vaughan Coveny(Wollongong)	6 — Kevin Muscat(South Melbourne)
11 — Steve Douglas(Morwell)	6 — Mike Petersen(South Melbourne)
10 — Troy Cranney(Brisbane)	6 — Gary Phillips(Brisbane)
10 — Velimir Kupresak(Sydney United)	6 — Sonny Sevin(Morwell)
10 — Tony Popovic(Sydney United)	6 — Ernie Tappi(Morwell)
10 — Alan Scott(Heidelberg)	6 — Peter Tsolakis(Heidelberg)
9 — Joe Bacak(Sydney Olympic)	5 — Paul Bilokapic(Sydney United)
9 — Angelo Colombo(Marconi)	5 — Clint Bolton(Brisbane)
9 — Michael Reda(Parramatta)	5 — Robert Eues(Melbourne S C)
8 — Sasho Dimoski(Wollongong)	5 — Ian Gray(Marconi)
8 — Damien Mori(Adelaide City)	5 — Geoff Gunning(Parramatta)
8 — Nick Orle(Parramatta)	5 — George Haniotis(West Adelaide)
8 — Les Pogliacomi(Marconi)	5 — Steve Horvat(Melbourne Knights)
8 — Mark Silic(Melbourne Knights)	5 — Zeljko Kalac(Sydney United)
8 — Joe Spiteri(Melbourne Knights)	5 — Shaun Parton(Morwell)
8 — Tony Vidmar(Adelaide City)	5 — Paul Souris(Parramatta)
8 — Chris Zoricich(Brisbane)	5 — Andrew Vlahos(Heidelberg)

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FINAL WHISTLE



N S L
IN REVIEW

COACH: KENNY MURPHY

KOURTIS

JOLEVSKI

TRAJKOVSKI **DELLA ROCCA (YC 85)** **KARKALETSIS**

EMMANUELLE (BICHLER 78) **NGATA** **BANINI** **ENES**

ZINNI **TRICARICO**

MELBOURNE S C **REFEREE John Rutter** **MARCONI FAIRFIELD**

TALIADOROS **HARPER**

TALAY **MCCULLOCH (ROBERTSON 69)** **COLOMBO** **IOCCA (BOSEVSKI 82)**

SMITH **GRAY** **HOLST** **VAN EGMOND**

POGLIACOMI **COACH: ANDREA ICARDI**

Zebras steal Stallions' win

MELBOURNE SC 1
MARCONI FAIRFIELD 1
(5-4 ON PENS)

BY CON STAVROS

Joe Tricarico handed the Melbourne Zebras a "get out of jail free" card with just four minutes left in their match against Marconi at Olympic park last Sunday evening.

The teenage striker pounced on a goalmouth scramble to poke home the unlikely equaliser in the 86th minute of a match littered with unforced errors.

Tricarico's goal cancelled out Darren Iocca's excellent headed effort that rocked the home side in just the fifth minute.

Iocca looped his header over Jim Kourtis after Andy Harper had worked well down the right to get in a cross.

The Zebras, fuelled on the enthusiasm of the equaliser, kept their heads best in the obligatory shoot-out, converting all their spot-kicks to capture the much appreciated bonus point.

Harper was the only Stallion to fail in the shoot-out, hitting his shot against the post.



ROUND 18
AT OLYMPIC PARK



Joe Tricarico: Goalscorer.

Marconi will undoubtedly feel hard done by in the penalties, with goalkeeper Les Pogliaconi, made to referee a penalty he saved from George Karkaletsis,

because of early movement.

The Zebras 'snatch and grab' mini-triumph continues their unbeaten streak which has stretched now to five matches.

Young Soccerroo Robbie Enes was the star of this victory, dominating a congested midfield and supplying the bulk of the Zebras' moves forward.

Both goals aside, chances were few and far between in a fixture that had little sparkle in the humid conditions.

Marconi appeared the most adventurous early on, with the much maligned defensive back four excellent in repelling the unusual long ball tactics of the Zebras.

Gay Van Egmond dominated Andrew Zinni, whilst Aaron Holst was solid whenever the ball came

down his flank.

Pogliaconi was outstanding in reading the play in goal for Marconi, although his positioning as Tricarico slid home to equalise may be worth some mid-week scrutinising.

Otherwise the young goalkeeper made a number of good interceptions on long balls forward as the Zebras ran out of ideas.

The draw-cum-loss is another disaster for Marconi coach Andrea Icardi. The Italian coach is desperately short of luck and must surely be ready to register at the CES.

SCORERS: Iocca 5th for Marconi, Tricarico 86th for Melbourne S.C.

Penalties: Trajkovski, Enes, Tricarico, Karkaletsis, Jolevski (Melbourne SC), Colombo, Taliadoros, Iocca, Smith (Marconi)

POY:
3 - Enes (Melb SC)
2 - Van Egmond (Marconi)
1 - Iocca (Marconi)
CROWD: 1485.

Wolves thump ailing Sharks

WEST ADELAIDE 0
WOLLONGONG CITY 4

BY CHRIS LINES



ROUND 18
AT HINDMARSH STADIUM



Wollongong City confirmed its championship threat with an impressive 4-0 win over West Adelaide at Hindmarsh Stadium last Sunday night.

Wollongong dominated the game from start to finish in a performance coach David Ratcliffe hopes will finally shrug off criticism of his team.

West Adelaide, by contrast, looked a pale imitation of its best and turned in a disjointed performance that had fans heading for the exit with more than 10 minutes to play.

"They've been slagging us, saying we are not a creative team and I think we are. I thought we played the ball well," said Ratcliffe.

West Adelaide coach Raul Blanco agreed that Wollongong is a good team.

"We were beaten by a much better side on the night. If they keep playing the way they are they will be a problem for everyone," he said.

Wollongong dominated



Adrian Cervinski: His goal rocked the Sharks.

the game from the beginning and opened the scoring in the 21st minute when Mineo Bonetig got his first goal for the club in two years.

Before West Adelaide had a chance to recover, Olyroo forward Adrian Cervinski put Wollongong 2-0 ahead after intercepting a shot from Claudio Cellini and then skipping around West Adelaide goalkeeper Peter

Blazincic to convert the goal.

Wollongong went 3-0 up early in the second half when a deflected cross came to Vaughan Coveny on the back post where he tucked it in.

West Adelaide's best chance came in the 69th minute when substitute Ross Aloisi hit the post.

As he watched the ball run

away, West Adelaide fans also saw their team's hopes run away and Wollongong rub salt into the wound with a goal on the stroke of full-time.

Substitute Robert Middleby beat off a defender before passing to Matt Horsley who convert the goal.

The win took Wollongong into fifth place, two points behind West Adelaide.

"I hope we stay in the top six but we've still got a long way to go," Ratcliffe said.

For West Adelaide, forward Cyrille Ndongo-Keller stood out as his team's best player and one of the few who kept fighting till the end.

Wollongong were best represented by forward Coveny and tight-marking defender Martin Bourke.

SCORERS: Bonetig 21st, Cervinski 26th, Coveny 57th, Horsley 90th for Wolves.

POY:
3 - Ndongo-Keller (W. Ad)
2 - Coveny (Wolves)
1 - Bourke (Wolves)
CROWD: 3,000.

COACH: RAUL BLANCO

BLAZINCIC

HOOVER

HANIOTIS **SLAGER**

KERAMIDAS **SLIFKAS** **ANDRIOLI (YC 41)** **TIBALDI (KOKKINOPLITIS 83)**

CARDOZO

IRIARTE (ALOISI 60) **NDONGO-KELLER**

WEST ADELAIDE **REFEREE Gerry Connolly** **WOLLONGONG CITY**

A **CERVINSKI ((MIDDLEBY 83))** **COVENY**

CELLINI **BRADLEY** **RICOY** **BONETIG** **HORSLEY (YC 37)** **(DIMOSKI 72)**

BOURKE **DIHM**

O'SHEA

HUGHES **COACH: DAVE RATCLIFFE**



Berger's onslaught kills Olympic

**HEIDELBERG
UNITED 2
SYDNEY
OLYMPIC 0**

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL



**ROUND
18
AT
OLYMPIC
VILLAGE**



Heidelberg United won its first home game for more than twelve months in defeating fellow strugglers Sydney Olympic 2-0.

The Olympic Village curse was finally lifted thanks to an inspirational Berger's performance, clearly their best this season.

Young Soccerroo squad member, Andy Vlahos was the driving force behind the victory scoring one goal and making the other.

The Berger's made their intentions clear from the start when Branko Milosevic cleared a goalbound Richard Watson header for a corner.

From that corner, new signing Peter Papouthis' header was flicked onto the crossbar by Vlahos.

Olympic, too, hit the crossbar in the first half through Norman Tome who was sent clear by Glenn Johnson.

George Georgiadis also had a shot cleared off the line by George Sorras who along with the rest of the Olympic



Slobodan Despotovski: Scored Heidelberg's second goal.

defence were working-overtime to stop Vlahos and Peter Psarros.

The Berger's continued the onslaught in the second half but couldn't find a goal to break the deadlock.

Referee Cain Naumcevski turned down what appeared to be a good claim for a penalty when Olympic substitute Phil Treharne handled a Georgiadis cross.

Vlahos finally got the goal the Berger's deserved in the

75th minute collecting a Peter Tsolakis pass before firing past Mike Gibson.

Three minutes later Vlahos created an opening for substitute Robert Despotovski to tap in his fourth goal of the season.

The Berger's can be pleased with the showing by Psarros. Although he didn't score he showed that he may be the player that Heidelberg have been missing all season.

Under pressure Olympic

coach Vince Estavillo mooted big changes for his team in the coming weeks, at the same time vowing to stick with his task.

"I will fight back this time, there are going to be big changes in the habits and the attitudes of the players," Estavillo said after the game.

"I have to congratulate Heidelberg, they won and deserved to win," Estavillo went on to say, while elated Heidelberg coach Andy Bozikas wasn't surprised by the victory.

"We've played well for four weeks now and we finally got some reward for the improvement tonight."

I had to get stuck into the players at half-time but the good thing is that we missed some chances but the boys didn't drop their heads, I think that just proves that we are slowly improving."

SCORERS: Vlahos 75th and Despotovski 78th.

POY:
3 - Vlahos (Berger's)
2 - Psarros (Berger's)
1 - Scott (Berger's)

CROWD: 2632



Strikers crush Eagles

**PARRAMATTA
EAGLES 1
BRISBANE
STRIKERS 4**

BY JOHN ECONOMOS



**ROUND
18
AT
MELITA
STADIUM**



Brisbane Strikers, greatly inspired by central midfielder Chris Zoricich and double-scoring striker Chris Slater, crushed Parramatta Eagles 1-4 last Sunday night at the Melita Stadium to continue the Eagles most disastrous home record this season.

To date from their nine home games this season, the Eagles have scored just one clear win, one on penalties and suffered seven losses that have cemented them in eighth spot on the League ladder.

Slater smashed two goals in the first eight minutes to have Parramatta well on the ropes so early in the duel.

The first which hit the target was a 25-metre screamer that rocketed into the top right corner, and for his second six minutes later, Slater elegantly head-glanced from the near post a Gary Phillips free-kick that flashed past a stranded Anthony Franken. Slater was on fire and in the 20th minute again was on target and heading for an early hat-trick only to

be denied by Franken who barely managed to tip the missile over his bar.

Brisbane's early brilliance and power-play was greatly aided by a lethargic, completely disjointed and feeble Parramatta midfield of Brayshaw, Falzon and Renaud which caved in under the sustained pressure from the Queenslanders. Without midfield specialists Michael Reda (on the bench) and Gabriel Mendez (in Eddie Thomson's Australian squad for tomorrow night's match against Japan), the Eagles lacked direction playing without a playmaker.

Two minutes before the break the Eagles almost pulled a goal back when lanky striker, Scott Gilbert set up fellow striker Geoff Gunning with a chance, but Gunning despite rounding 'keeper Clint Bolton, shaved the base of the right post with his final effort.

Queensland's industrious midfield of Danny Wright, Gary Phillips, Chris Zoricich, Craig Williams and Troy Cranney continued to

pulverise the Eagles with quick shut-downs and good service to their strike-line of Rod Brown and Chris Slater, whilst triple central defenders, Andrew Stowell, Alan Hunter welded by sweeper, Steve Jackson stood defiantly to all assaults.

In the 56th minute the Eagles grabbed a goal when stylistic defender Glenn Gwynne broke out of the defence on a 50-metre raid. Gwynne sprayed a pass wide to his left to substitute Tom Haythornthwaite whose hot shot was only parried by Brisbane's 'keeper, Bolton. The robust Gunning was on the spot to latch onto the rebound and send a curling shot just inside the left post.

In the 61st minute Slater brilliantly set up the hardest working and Man Of The Match Zoricich, to score from the near post his goal and personal third in Brisbane's last two matches, whilst Rod Brown two minutes from the end made it 1-4 scoring his 101st NSL goal following excellent lead

up work from the tenacious Hunter and substitute Sean Cranney.

Brisbane's pleased boss, Bruce Stowell reflected: "The fact we scored two very quick goals in the first few minutes did the damage and set the pattern and scene for the rest of the match with a good all-round team-performance."

Meanwhile an obviously dejected Eagles coach, Rale Rasic stated: "Their two first goals came very early from two shocking defensive errors by us, but you can't take anything away from Brisbane's boys as they have some good experience in players such as Jackson, Brown and Phillips, whilst the whole team played with great unity."

SCORERS: Gunning 56th for the Eagles, and Slater 2nd & 8th, Zoricich 61st and Brown 88th for the Brisbane Strikers

POY:
3 - Zoricich
2 - Slater
1 - Troy Cranney.
CROWD: 2,729.



Brisbane Strikers Sydney United

Saturday 18th February, Perry Park 7.00pm

Brisbane			Form Guide			Syd United			
Name	Gms	Gls				Name	Gms	Gls	
Clint Bolton	16	0	HEAD TO HEAD:			Zeljko Kalac	15	0	
Chris Zoricich	16	3		W	D	L	Mark Babic	13	0
Alan Hunter	14	2	Syd Utd	5	2	0	Paul Bilokapic	8(1)	1
Steve Jackson	16	0	LAST MEETING:			V Kupresak	15	0	
Alun Evans	15(2)	1	27 Nov 1994, 0-0.			Tony Popovic	13	1	
Gary Phillips	17	0	RECORD SCORE:			Mark Rudan	5(3)	2	
Andrew Stowell	13	0	Brisbane: 2-1, '94-'95(Cup)			Robert Stanton	15	0	
Rod Brown	17	5	Syd Utd: 3-0, 1992-1993.			E Hristodoulou	15	1	
Danny Wright	14(2)	0	YELLOW CARDS:			Ante Moric	10(1)	1	
Troy Cranney	17	1	Brisbane: 22			Ivan Petkovic	8(4)	0	
Chris Slater	6(9)	5	Syd Utd: 23			Shaun Babic	0(7)	2	
Sean Cranney	9(2)	1	RED CARDS:			Mario Jermen	1(3)	0	
Craig Williams	9(4)	1	Brisbane: 2			Manis Lamond	9(1)	2	
Brad Ditton	7(4)	2	Syd Utd: 1			Ante Milicic	10(3)	3	
Graham Ross	1	0	SHOOTOUT RECORD:			L Naumovski	14	0	
Ian Hutchison	0(3)	0	Brisbane: 3-2			David Zdrilic	13(1)	5	
			Syd Utd: 3-1			Joe Vrkic	0(2)	0	
			ABSW predicts			Dominic Usalj	0(1)	0	
			(67) Greg Blake Syd Utd			Richard Plesa	1	0	
			(48) Vince Battiato Syd Utd						
			(63) A. Russell Brisbane						
			(68) Con Stavros Brisbane						
			(63) Alfred Hiatt Syd Utd						
			(58) J Economos Syd Utd						

ROUND EIGHTEEN RESULTS

Parramatta1 Brisbane.....4 Melbourne SC1 Marconi.....1
Heidelberg Utd ...2 Syd Olympic.....0 (5-3 on penalties)
W. Adelaide.....0 Wollongong.....4

NSL TABLE

as of February 12, 1995

	P	W	D	PW	L	F	A	Pt
Melbourne Knights	16	11	2	1	3	30	14	47
Adelaide City	16	10	4	1	2	26	10	45
Sydney United	15	8	4	3	3	18	11	39
West Adelaide	17	7	5	3	5	20	21	36
Wollongong City	17	7	4	2	6	28	24	34
Brisbane Strikers	17	6	5	3	6	21	15	32
South Melbourne	16	6	3	2	7	31	26	29
Parramatta Eagles	17	6	2	1	9	16	21	27
Morwell Falcons	15	3	10	3	2	19	19	25
Melbourne SC	16	4	5	4	7	15	28	25
Marconi Fairfield	17	3	6	3	8	17	24	21
Sydney Olympic	17	4	4	1	9	16	26	21
Heidelberg United	16	3	2	1	11	12	30	15

W — WIN 4 Points
D — DRAW 1 Point
PW — PENALTY WIN 1 Bonus Point
L — LOSS 0

Marconi Fairfield Heidelberg United

Saturday 18th February, Marconi Stadium 7.30pm

Marconi

Name	Gms	Gls
Bob Catlin	6	0
G Van Egmond	12	1
J P De Marigny	7	1
Tom McCulloch	7(2)	0
Ian Gray	12	1
Luke Casserly	11	0
Marshall Soper	9(3)	2
Kim Taliadoros	13(2)	2
Angelo Colombo	11	2
Andy Harper	10(1)	2
Mike Smith	11(1)	1
Ufuk Talay	11(1)	1
Aaron Holst	6	0
Darren Iocca	8(3)	1
Michael Kladis	0(1)	0
Klaus Okon	4	0
L Pogliacomi	11	0
Paul Dee	9(3)	0
Robert Gomez	0(5)	0
Christian Ortiz	6(1)	0
Steve Corica	12	1
Matt Bingley	10	2
M Robertson	1(3)	0
Nick Bosevski	0(1)	0

Form Guide

HEAD TO HEAD:

	W	D	L
Marconi	15	6	6

LAST MEETING:

27 Nov 1994, 1-1.

RECORD SCORE:

Marconi: 8-1, 1977.

Bergers: 4-0, 1979.

YELLOW CARDS:

Marconi: 46

Bergers: 33

RED CARDS:

Marconi: 4

Bergers: 2

SHOOTOUT RECORD:

Marconi: 3-3

Bergers: 1-1

ABSW predicts

Greg Blake Marconi

Vince Battiatto Marconi

A. Russell Marconi

Con Stavros Marconi

Alfred Hiatt Marconi

J. Economos Marconi


Heidelberg

Name	Gms	Gls
David Miller	16	0
Richard Watson	14(1)	0
Alan Scott	16	0
Milan Blagojevic	8	0
Brian Macnicol	14	0
Andrew Vlahos	9(3)	3
A Kiratzoglou	7	0
Walter Ardone	14	1
G Georgiadis	15	0
Danny Gnjidic	7(4)	3
Steve Iosifidis	1	0
Peter Psarros	1(2)	0
Tom Karapatsos	4(3)	0
Michael Curcija	0(2)	0
S Nedelkovic	1(2)	0
Eric Vasiliadis	7(2)	0
Peter Tsolakis	16	1
Angelo Koutos	12	0
Tony Alilovic	1	0
R Despotovski	7(4)	4
Vesilin Zmugic	3(2)	0
P Papouthis	1	0


Melbourne Knights Melbourne S C

Sunday 19th February, Melb Croatian Sports Centre 6.30pm

Melb Knights			Form Guide			Melb S C			
Name	Gms	Gls	HEAD TO HEAD:			Name	Gms	Gls	
Frank Juric	16	0	W D L			M Gonzales	7	0	
Vinko Buljubasic	13	1	Knights	7	2	5	Jim Kourtis	9	0
F De Amicis	8	1	LAST MEETING:			J Androlidakis	0(1)	0	
David Cervinski	15	1	25 Nov 1994, Knights 3-1.			P Della Rocca	14	1	
Steve Horvat	16	0	RECORD SCORE:			George Jolevski	12(1)	0	
Andrew Marth	6(1)	3	Knights: 5-0, 1994-1995.			G Karkaletsis	9(1)	0	
Mark Silic	16	2	Melb S C: 4-0, 1986.			Blagoja Kuleski	12	0	
Josip Biskic	15	2	YELLOW CARDS:			R Trajkovski	14	1	
Mark Viduka	15(1)	10	Knights: 31			Ransford Banini	15	0	
Lupe Lapsansky	14	2	Melb S C: 35			S Emmanuelle	10(1)	0	
Oliver Pondeljak	4(5)	0	RED CARDS:			Michael Mazzini	3(3)	0	
Z Markovski	4(1)	0	Knights: 1			Robert Enes	6(2)	1	
Joe Spiteri	15(1)	6	Melb S C: 4			Z Trajceviski	12	0	
Danny Tiatto	14(1)	1	SHOOTOUT RECORD:			R Tombolato	5(1)	1	
K Razov	0(1)	0	Knights: 1-1			Nick Lazarevski	6(3)	1	
Ante Kovacevic	4	0	Melb S C: 4-1			Heremai Ngata	8(2)	2	
D Grganovic	1(1)	0	ABSW predicts			Joe Tricarico	7(7)	2	
			Greg Blake Knights			Andrew Zinni	13	4	
			Vince Battiatto Knights			J Angelovski	3(2)	0	
			A. Russell Knights			Klaus Bichler	0(2)	0	
			Con Stavros Knights						
			Alfred Hiatt Knights						
			J. Economos Melb S C						




Sydney Olympic v Morwell Falcons




Sunday 19th February, Leichhardt Oval 6.30pm

Syd Olympic			Form Guide			Morwell			
Name	Gms	Gls				Name	Gms	Gls	
Mike Gibson	16	0	HEAD TO HEAD:			Vince Matassa	12	0	
Elias Augerinos	6(3)	1		W	D	L	Jason Dastey	1	0
David Barrett	14	2	Falcons	2	2	1	Garry Upton	8(2)	0
Ante Juric	14(1)	0	LAST MEETING:			Claudio Canosa	11	0	
George Sorras	15	0	26 Nov 1994, 0-0.			Steven Douglas	13	1	
Tony Spyridakos	14	0	RECORD SCORE:			Shaun Parton	14	0	
Nick Meredith	16	1	Olympic: 2-1, 1993-1994.			Sonny Sevin	14	0	
Grant Lee	4(2)	0	Falcons: 2-0, 1992-1993.			John Waddell	11	0	
Brad Maloney	13(2)	3	YELLOW CARDS:			M Stergiopoulos	4(5)	0	
Branko Milosevic	14(1)	0	Olympic:			Brian Bothwell	13	0	
Vlado Radic	1(2)	0	Falcons: 40			John Markovski	12(2)	3	
Peter Tsekenis	14	0	RED CARDS:			L Armstrong	9(1)	0	
Joe Bacak	13(2)	4	Olympic:			Carlo Villani	0(3)	0	
Glen Johnson	14	1	Falcons: 4			Lee Dastey	1	0	
Derek Poimer	4(3)	1	SHOOTOUT RECORD:			Doug Marcina	4(1)	0	
Norman Tome	2(9)	1	Olympic:			Scott Miller	6(2)	0	
Joe Caleta	0(3)	0	Falcons: 3-7			Ernie Tapai	11	1	
Damien Smith	2(1)	1	<div>ABSW predicts</div> <div>Greg Blake Olympic</div> <div>Vince Battiato Olympic</div> <div>A. Russell Morwell</div> <div>Con Stavros Olympic</div> <div>Alfred Hiatt Olympic</div> <div>J. Economos Olympic</div>			Warren Spink	8	1	
		Ozan Fehmi				0(1)	0		
		Pablo Ferreira				2(2)	1		



Wollongong City v Parramatta Eagles



Sunday 19th February, Brandon Park 6.30pm

Wollongong

Name	Gms	Gls
Brett Hughes	17	0
Steve Forshaw	10	0
Mike O'shea	17	2
Richard Lloyd	2(2)	0
Matthew Dihm	8	0
Matt Horsley	17	2
Sasho Dimoski	13(1)	1
V Coveny	17	8
Martin Akers	8(2)	4
Peter Murray	10(2)	1
Claudio Cellini	10(3)	1
Mineo Bonetig	6(2)	1
Stuart McLaren	0(1)	0
Martin Bourke	16	0
Mike Grbevski	0	0
Mark Troth	6(1)	0
Tom Bazdaric	0	0
Dale White	0	0
Rob Middleby	3(12)	1
Chris Sterjovski	3(2)	0
Troy Halpin	3(1)	0
Pat Bradley	12(1)	3
A Cervinski	8(1)	4
Pedro Ricoy	1	0

Form Guide

HEAD TO HEAD:

	W	D	L
Wolves	4	7	2

LAST MEETING:

27 Nov 1994, 2-2.

RECORD SCORE:

Wolves: 3-0, 1992-1993.

Eagles: 2-0, 1989-1990.

YELLOW CARDS:

Wolves: 34

Eagles: 36

RED CARDS:

Wolves: 2

Eagles: 4

SHOOTOUT RECORD:

Wolves: 2-2

Eagles: 1-1

ABSW predicts

Greg Blake Wolves

Vince Battiato Wolves

A. Russell Wolves

Con Stavros Wolves

Alfred Hiatt Wolves

J. Economos Wolves

Parramatta

Name	Gms	Gls
Tony Franken	17	0
Glenn Sprod	11(2)	1
Paul Souris	10	0
Glenn Gwynne	16	0
Nick Orlic	16	1
Mark Reveley	2(3)	0
Craig Moffitt	11	0
B Renaud	17	2
Michael Reda	13(4)	0
A Brayshaw	12(3)	2
Gabriel Mendez	14(1)	3
Geoff Gunning	16	5
Scott Gilbert	8(1)	2
George Souris	6	0
Jason Falzon	4(4)	0
Adam Ciantar	14(2)	0
Haythornthwaite	0(3)	0
M Brockwell	0(3)	0
Jason Holmes	0(1)	0

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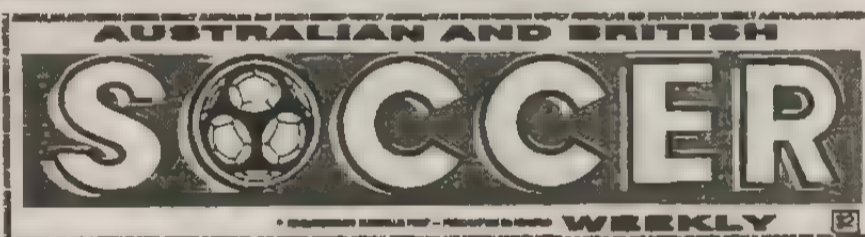
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AWARITEFE TO MAKE COMEBACK

BY DON STAYNOR

South Melbourne are hopeful of having Francis Awaritefe back in time for the finals.

The in-form forward fractured his upper left arm in an accidental clash in the Blues last game against Wollongong.

Awaritefe will spend the next six weeks with his arm in plaster and providing he can maintain his fitness will be a likely starter for the play-offs now that the Blues are contenders.

The arm fracture is the second for Souths this season, following Gary Hasler's injury in a youth league fixture a month ago.

The Blues injury woes have at least been helped somewhat by the latest

"They have clearly gone away thinking the Falcons have lost the game."



two-week layoff enforced on the club by the bye and this week's postponed match against West Adelaide.

The break has meant that star defender Mehmet Durakovic will have a chance to rest his groin injury following his miraculous appearance in the game against Wollongong.

Durakovic is known for his tenacity, but no-one expected him to front up in an NSL match after he was ruled out of the Soccerroo squad with injury.

Durakovic pulled up extremely sore after the game and is clearly well below his normal outstanding best.

South's match against West Ad has been set down for March 22 at Olympic Park, with the club now set for a dream run into the finals.

Five of their last seven matches will be at Olympic Park, giving the Blues some timely practice on the large surface as well as the natural home advantage against interstate teams.

The Blues' away games will be relatively soft encounters too, with Sydney Olympic and Marconi off the boil this season.

Whilst Souths ponder their on-field endeavours their president George Vasilopoulos has moved swiftly to distance himself from the ASF finance sub-committee of which he has been part of.

Vasilopoulos, who has a strong financial background, went on the record last week with his concerns about a number of issues involving the ASF and alleged irregularities in their accounts.

Morwell Marketing Manager Ray McCluskey has also hit out at soccer's governing bodies in Australia, calling for the abolishment of the controversial penalty shoot-out system.

McCluskey, who has been a driving force behind the Falcons' rise to prominence over the past three years, has quite rightly highlighted the spectator confusion over what constitutes a win under the present system. Morwell of course have become the league's draw specialists, having finished level in 10 of their first 15 games.

Whilst the Falcons are a



Francis Awaritefe: Hoping to be back in time for the finals.



must pick for Soccerpools punters, McCluskey believes that the shoot-outs, which he initially favoured are sending people away disappointed.

"I can tell you that not too many Gippslanders believe the shoot-outs are a good idea", says McCluskey.

"They have clearly gone away thinking the Falcons have lost the game, when in actual fact the game has been drawn. The end result is that from a marketing perspective the shoot-outs have added nothing and have actually been doing us more harm than good."

Morwell's record in the penalty shoot-outs is a well documented 3-7 but as McCluskey highlights, the Falcons have lost only two matches in their first 15, a record better than the Knights and only equalled by Adelaide City.

Unfortunately however,

if you look at the stats from a cynical viewpoint, the Falcons also have a win record that is equal second to last in the competition.

The actions of some of Australia's brightest players has fallen into question in the last couple of weeks with Mark Viduka set to join John Markovski at the NSL tribunal on a 'bringing the game into disrepute' charge.

Markovski earned his appearance after deliberately flouting a politically motivated t-shirt to South Melbourne supporters, whilst Viduka allegedly spat at Eagles' defender George Souris in their last home match.

Viduka was caught in an agitated mood after the game by SBS cameras as he prepared for an interview that clearly showed the ASF needs to do some quick PR work with it's highest profile young star.

Great player that he may be a nervous Viduka mumbled his way through dozens of "you know's" as Les Murray fired the questions.

The major American codes as well as the Australian Cricket Board put all their key players through media courses,



Mehmet Durakovic: Will finally rest his groin.

teaching them all the nuances of interviews and projecting the right image.

Given the state of the game in the public's eye at the moment, soccer needs

all the help it can get.

Whilst Paul Wade is a polished performer as the senior spokesman, Viduka as the upcoming heir would be a good investment.



Paul Wade: A polished performer as the senior spokesman.

DEFERRED MATCH

MORWELL FALCONS

ADELAIDE CITY

Morwell Falcons Park

Wednesday, 8th March 7:00pm

Sydney United



BY ALFRED MATT

Sydney United defender Joe Vrkic will be out to grab a spot in the Young Socceroos' starting line-up when the team tours Europe.

Vrkic, who has made two NSL appearances this season as a substitute for United, wants to show coach Les Scheinflug he can handle the pressures of first-team football.

"I'm basically a bench player at the moment," admitted the former St George junior.

"But we're going to play around five games on tour, so I'll try to break into the first team if I get a chance."

Vrkic predicts that Australia are good enough to go as far as the quarter-finals — and maybe further.

The keys will be the form of Mark Viduka up front, and the team's deadly midfield, he says.

"We have probably one of the best midfields an Australian Under



Joe Vrkic: Looking for a Young Socceroo spot.

20 side has ever had," Vrkic said.

"[Josip] Skoko is a great player, and he and [Ufuk] Talay and [Robert] Enes can all score goals.

"Viduka is the key — without him we won't score as many."

Vrkic's versatility should help him gain playing time at the World Youth Cup.

Although his favourite position is stopper, Scheinflug uses him as a right-back. At club level, the form of Velmir Kupresak and Mark

Babic has forced Vrkic to appear in the left-back position.

United coach Branko Culina, meanwhile, is dreading the loss of four key squad members to the Young Socceroos.

Young guns Paul Bilokapic, Mark Rudan, and Richard Plesa will join Vrkic in Scheinflug's plans, while hard-working midfielder Chad Gibson and top striker Zeljko Babic are on standby for the squad.

◆ Sydney United will lose at least \$10,000 when the club plays its deferred round 18 match against Melbourne Knights on February 22 — according to the club's chief executive, Mark Jukic.

Jukic expects a maximum crowd of 1800 to turn up to the Wednesday night

fixture.

That's a far cry from the 3-4000 normally attracted to the clash between the two sister clubs.

The match was rescheduled because of the national team commitments of Sydney United players.

"The National League always comes last," Jukic lamented.

"The clubs that spend money on junior development are the ones that are punished."

Sydney Olympic



BY ALFRED MATT

Sydney Olympic's decision to keep Vince Estavillio as coach was the right one, according to key midfielder Peter Tsekenis.

Tsekenis says the side will benefit from the continued presence of the Uruguayan-born coach at the helm.

"The good thing is that now the coach knows the players and committee are behind him," Tsekenis told ABSW.

"The stability is there now, and the pressure's off."

Tsekenis said Olympic's players accepted responsibility for the team's loss to Melbourne SC, which provoked Estavillio's offer of resignation.

And the majority of players back the embattled coach, added the former Young Socceroo.

"We've struggled for a number of reasons, but the main problems have been a lack of discipline and sharpness," said Tsekenis.

Tsekenis, who was suspended from last weekend's game against Heidelberg United, says he was



Peter Tsekenis: Glad that Estavillio is staying.

grateful for the week's break.

He felt drained after the Olyroos' four-nation tournament.

"Training each day drains you mentally — even if it is light.

"Still, if you want to become a professional footballer you have to get used to it," said Tsekenis.

◆ Sydney Olympic youth team coach Peter Katholos believes Olympic's best juniors have had a raw deal.

Katholos reckons a lack of first-team experience has cost promising young players like Buonavoglia, Guzzo, Nikas, and De Jesus a chance of national team experience.

"The problem with our club is that our youngsters are not getting a go in first grade," Katholos said.

"So many of our guys could have forced themselves into the Australian side."

Marconi-Fairfield



BY VINCE BATTIATO

Well, the tale of the tape is the same once again for Marconi. Ahead on points until the final round but one killer blow sent them crashing to the canvas.

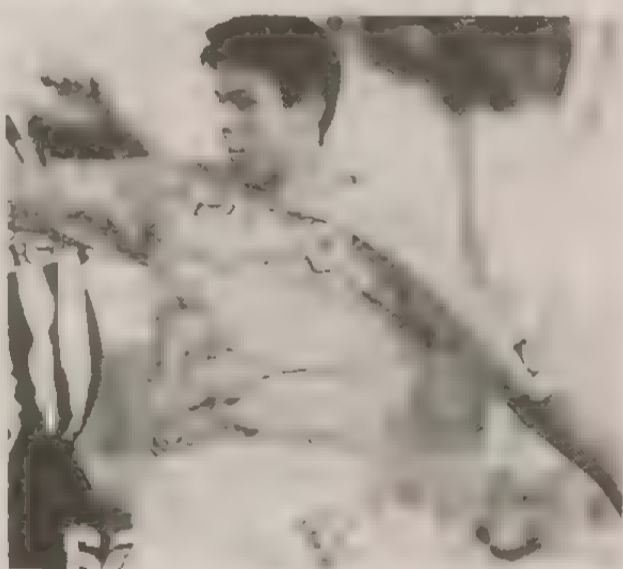
A certain four points were in the bag against Melbourne SC over the weekend until four minutes remaining where the regular story of the Stallions' season continued to unfold. The result — one point instead of four.

Although looking quite comfortable in defence Marconi were without the services of Matthew Bingley and John Paul De Marigny through injury and Steve Corica due to international duty.

"We are looking forward to Steve (Corica) coming back," said media liaison officer Frank Scicluna.

"Hopefully he can reproduce his international form for his club," he ended.

◆ Marconi pin-up boy Steve Corica will be making his 97th



Steve Corica: Soon to hit the 100-game milestone.

appearance for the club this week against Heidelberg and barring any injury or suspension he should rack up his century in the home fixture against arch-rivals Sydney Olympic in a few weeks time.

◆ Korean champions Il Hwa will be in Australia next week as part of their pre-season training. They will play Marconi at Bossley Park on Tuesday February 21st at 7pm.

◆ As mentioned in this column (December 27th) Japanese club Jubilo Iwata will be touring Australia and will be arriving on February 21st.

They are scheduled to take on Marconi on Wednesday March 1st at Bossley Park at 7.30pm with the Marconi Youth to take on Port Kembla at 5.30pm.

There is an air of excitement in the club for this match since Italian star Salvatore 'Toto' Schillaci will be in the starting lineup.

The match will have a Serie A flavour and will be somewhat of a reunion night for a select few.

It should be a great sight to see Angelo Colombo and Schillaci on the same park again and not forgetting the presence of Coach Icardi, there should be a few memories filtering back for the trio.

Jubilo will also be fielding Gerald Van Enberg, a 30-year-old former Dutch international.

Marconi's match scheduled for Saturday March 4th against Japanese club Flugels, has been cancelled.

Parramatta Eagles



BY ALFRED MATT

Olyroo hopeful Brendan Renaud says he had "no qualms" about signing a new two-year contract with Parramatta Eagles.

"The club has been trustworthy, and I can only return the favour," the promising left midfielder told ABSW.

"I've been at Parramatta a long time, and whatever happens from now the club will always be my starting point."

Renaud hopes that by becoming a more consistent player he will work his way back into Olyroo contention.

He also has a message for those who doubt the Eagles' chances of making the play-offs: "There's no reason to count us out.

"We're a young, fairly naive, side but we're learning all the time."

Meanwhile, utility Glenn Spord is believed to have signed a three-year deal with the South Granville club.

◆ The Eagles are embroiled in a struggle with the Parramatta Council over vacant land at the back of Melita Stadium, which is



Brendan Renaud: Signed a new deal with the club.

normally used for overflow spectator parking.

The council has stopped parking in the area, but this move has caused inconvenience for many Eagles supporters.

Club officials had hoped the issue would have been resolved last month.

However, negotiations remain deadlocked.

◆ Parramatta Eagles are moving towards appointing a full-time administrator.

The club has interviewed candidates for the post, and will trial the successful applicant before appointment.

NO POINTS TO PENALTIES

SHOOT-OUTS INTRODUCED A CHANGE OF DIRECTION

BY GREG BLAKE

Penalty shoot-outs to split drawn games are set to join the NSL's old 'bonus points' system as nothing more than a less than amusing aside of the past.

Not only are the penalty shoot-outs introduced this season time wasters, anti-climactic and unfair, they are also proving to be virtually meaningless.

Take it as read that the coaches reckon they stink and players need no further pressure during the gruelling regular season.

And the fans have just about had it as well.

By mid-year even hard core fans of the game have been leaving the ground in numbers as the shoot-outs have turned sometimes enthralling drawn games into agonising marathons decided by luck alone.

Not that the powers that be shouldn't be applauded for having the guts to toss some ideas around — indeed the NSL's third rate sporting event status in this country requires that changes which may liven the entertainment value up be almost mandatory.

However, penalty shoot-outs have basically stunk the place up and should go the way of 1979's ridiculous bonus point system, when teams winning by four or more goals earned one miserly extra point.

We've tried penalties and they haven't caught on.

Now ditch 'em.

Just to back-up the argument against in statistical terms, shoot-outs — as well as four points per win — have not made virtually a scrap of difference to NSL teams.

As is shown in the exclusive ABSW charts below there is negligible change to the make-up of the league ladder between the standings as they are and as they would have been under the now defunct — in Australia anyway — three points per win system.

Only one team the Melbourne Zebras has been advantaged by the changes.

ROUND 17 - UNDER CURRENT POINTS SCORING SYSTEM

1994/95 NSL LADDER

Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
Adelaide	1	10	4	1	34
Canberra	2	9	5	1	31
Wellington	3	8	6	1	30
Perth	4	7	7	1	28
Wollongong	5	6	8	1	25
Wendouye	6	5	9	1	22
Wentworth	7	4	10	1	19
Wendouye	8	3	11	1	16
Wendouye	9	2	12	1	13
Wendouye	10	1	13	1	10
Wendouye	11	0	14	1	7
Wendouye	12	0	15	1	4
Wendouye	13	0	16	1	1
Wendouye	14	0	17	1	0
Wendouye	15	0	18	1	0
Wendouye	16	0	19	1	0
Wendouye	17	0	20	1	0

ROUND 17 - UNDER 2 POINTS PER WIN

1994/95 NSL LADDER

Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
Adelaide	1	10	4	1	34
Canberra	2	9	5	1	31
Wellington	3	8	6	1	30
Perth	4	7	7	1	28
Wollongong	5	6	8	1	25
Wendouye	6	5	9	1	22
Wentworth	7	4	10	1	19
Wendouye	8	3	11	1	16
Wendouye	9	2	12	1	13
Wendouye	10	1	13	1	10
Wendouye	11	0	14	1	7
Wendouye	12	0	15	1	4
Wendouye	13	0	16	1	1
Wendouye	14	0	17	1	0
Wendouye	15	0	18	1	0
Wendouye	16	0	19	1	0
Wendouye	17	0	20	1	0

ROUND 17 - UNDER 3 POINTS PER WIN

1994/95 NSL LADDER

Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
Adelaide	1	10	4	1	34
Canberra	2	9	5	1	31
Wellington	3	8	6	1	30
Perth	4	7	7	1	28
Wollongong	5	6	8	1	25
Wendouye	6	5	9	1	22
Wentworth	7	4	10	1	19
Wendouye	8	3	11	1	16
Wendouye	9	2	12	1	13
Wendouye	10	1	13	1	10
Wendouye	11	0	14	1	7
Wendouye	12	0	15	1	4
Wendouye	13	0	16	1	1
Wendouye	14	0	17	1	0
Wendouye	15	0	18	1	0
Wendouye	16	0	19	1	0
Wendouye	17	0	20	1	0

ROUND 17 - UNDER FOUR POINTS PER WIN

1994/95 NSL LADDER

Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
Adelaide	1	10	4	1	34
Canberra	2	9	5	1	31
Wellington	3	8	6	1	30
Perth	4	7	7	1	28
Wollongong	5	6	8	1	25
Wendouye	6	5	9	1	22
Wentworth	7	4	10	1	19
Wendouye	8	3	11	1	16
Wendouye	9	2	12	1	13
Wendouye	10	1	13	1	10
Wendouye	11	0	14	1	7
Wendouye	12	0	15	1	4
Wendouye	13	0	16	1	1
Wendouye	14	0	17	1	0
Wendouye	15	0	18	1	0
Wendouye	16	0	19	1	0
Wendouye	17	0	20	1	0

Comparing this season to last the Zebras are one place better off than they might have been thanks to more 'penalty wins' than Sydney Olympic.

However, the stark reality is that the changes to the points system, courageous as they may have been, have meant nothing and that three points per win — as has been or will be adopted virtually world wide — should be re-introduced.

The old bonus points system was the NSL's other one season wonder.

Introduced in 1979 and ditched at the end of that year, it rewarded teams winning by four or more goal margins one extra point.

Needless to say it didn't truly encourage any significant changes with only one team, eventual champions Marconi Fairfield, scoring more than one four-goal margin victory all season.

For the record, only one team has won by four or more to date this year when South Melbourne trounced the Melbourne Zebras 6-0 back in January.

In making comparisons between point scoring systems it is apparent that the differences between the older and more traditional two points per win system and the three or four point systems in vogue in the 1990's is more considerable.

As we can see in the charts below, the current NSL ladder would sport a significantly altered look under two points per win.

The older system is clearly geared less towards winning outright and more towards not losing.

Thus, teams which draw games more regularly would reap the rewards.

Current top drawing team (10 draws in 15 games) Morwell would move up three places into the fringe of the top six.

The charts show that six ladder places would change under two points per win.

As for this year's biggest waste of time — the penalty shoot-outs — forget 'em.

If they don't make a difference don't bother.

Pictorial Feature

NO 7 SOUTH MELBOURNE



Paul Trimboli



Gary Masler



Jason Puck



Mark Mitchell

CLUB RECORDS

YEARS IN NSL	18 — 1977 to 1993/94
HONOURS	Champions — 1984 and 1990/91 Runners up — 1981 Minor premiers — 1992/93 Cup winners — 1989/90 Cup runners up — 1987 Finalists — 1978, 1980, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1989/90, 1990/91, 1991/92, 1992/93 and 1993/94
GAMES RECORD	Steve Blair (338)
GOALS RECORD	Charlie Egan (73)
1993/94 TOP SCORER	Francis Awantife (11)
MOST GLS IN A SEASON	Doug Brown (22) in 1984
RECORD WIN	7-0 v Newcastle Rosebud (League) in 1984
RECORD DEFEAT	0-7 v Marconi (Final) in 1992/93
HOME RECORD	P 238 W 130 D 81 L 47 F 408 A 228 Pt 321
AWAY RECORD	P 234 W 95 D 58 L 81 F 326 A 290 Pt 248
LEAGUE TOTAL	472 225 119 128 734 518 569
FINALS/TOP 4	26 8 5 13 37 50 N/A
CUP GAMES	42 22 5 15 97 58 N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES	540 255 129 156 868 626 N/A
Finals or cup matches decided on penalties are shown as drawn games. Home and away points calculated on two points per win basis.	

Brisbane Strikers



BY GLENN DAVIS

Perseverance is finally about to pay off for talented Brisbane Strikers reserve keeper Graham Ross.

Ross, who signed with the Strikers this year after being loaned out by Rochdale last season, will take up the gloves for the next six matches while regular keeper Clint Bolton's is away on World Youth duties.

Bolton finished up with the Strikers after Sunday's Parramatta match and, according to a coach Bruce Stowell, could be absent for up to six weeks if the World Youth Championships go ahead in Nigeria.

Stowell had plenty of praise for Ross, who has binned his time over the past two years playing for the Queensland Academy side.

"It's a difficult job for a goalkeeper. Unfortunately, only one can play but when you get a chance you grab it," Stowell said.

Ross' promotion couldn't have come at a better time after recently announcing his engagement to long time girlfriend Natalie, 23.

Now that Ross will have a good



Graham Ross: Perseverance paying off.

period in which to impress Stowell, the 24-year-old keeper, is not about to let the opportunity slip by.

"It's up to me now to retain my place in the side," Ross said.

"If I play to the best of my ability and provided we get a few good results, I'm a fair chance of keeping Clint out when he returns.

Ross conceded his role as the Queensland Academy 'keeper makes life difficult watching the Strikers.

"I go away with the Strikers every weekend which means I only get to play every second

week at home," Ross said.

"It's difficult because it's a very big jump from the Academy side to national league and mentally I've got to life myself."

Ross doesn't let a close friendship with Bolton deter his national league ambitions.

"Clint and I get on very well but there's still a strong competitiveness between us," Ross said.

"I try to keep him on his toes and I'm always pushing trying to get his jersey."

"I don't think Bruce would like it any other way."

Wollongong City



BY PHIL MURPHY

Matthew Dihm had a couple of setbacks before cementing a place in the Wollongong City team this season.

The talented defender signed at Brandon Park after a season in the State Super League with Leichhardt and made his debut against Marconi at Marconi Stadium.

Wollongong lost 2-0 and Dihm was the first to admit he didn't play well.

"It wasn't a very good start for me and I lost my place against Melbourne Knights the following week," Dihm said.

"That was when I became ill and had to go into hospital."

"I was away from training for three weeks then came back in the youth team."

"It was a matter of working as hard as I could and hoping I could regain my spot in the first team."

That chance came when full-back Steve Forshaw was forced out of David Ratcliffe's team with a back injury.



Matthew Dihm: Cemented his place.

Dihm took Forshaw's spot against Adelaide City in Adelaide and did well.

He has been doing well ever since and made the right full-back spot his own.

"It was a stop-start beginning but things seem to have come together for me," Dihm said.

"After the Marconi game and the illness, I kept my fingers crossed that my luck would change and it has."

Although he has played a number of roles during his senior career, Dihm prefers to operate at right full-back with the freedom to get forward at every opportunity.

He has done that effectively

with Wollongong and also thrives on man-marking jobs.

Dihm was with Leichhardt before the club was dropped from the NSL and ironically made his debut with that club against Wollongong at Brandon Park in the 1991-92 season.

It was a 1-1 draw and Dihm remembers Wollongong's Alex Bundalo broke his leg that day and never played again.

Previously, Dihm had taken the field as a replacement for Leichhardt against Adelaide City in Adelaide.

He told ABSW he is really enjoying his football at Brandon Park.

"The people at the club are great and they have a very good setup," Dihm said.

"We had a slow start to the season but the boys are confident of making the playoffs."

"If we do and are able to get our top side on the field I am sure Wollongong will make a real impact."

"The team is playing some good football and the goals have been coming as a result." At the end of the NSL season, Dihm is undecided about playing through the winter.

He is a Wollongong player and expects an offer to play on loan in the State League.

"At this stage, I think I will give it a miss," Dihm said.

"I have had three full seasons and I think I would like to have a break during the winter and look forward to a successful NSL season."

Adelaide City



BY PETER KRUPKA

West Adelaide midfielder George Slifkas can be forgiven for thinking he is the forgotten man of Australian soccer.

Slifkas represented Australia at youth level and made 19 appearances in the green and gold for the Olympic team but since then has been forgotten by Australian coach Eddie Thomson.

"It's been three years since 1992 (Olympics) and I haven't been approached by anyone," a disappointed Slifkas said.

While the reliable midfielder said he realised the wealth of talent in Australian soccer meant not every player would get a chance to play for the country, he felt he had been abandoned with no real explanation.

"I was part of Eddie Thomson's plans and I've only played one game since," he said.

The 25-year-old said most other players part of the Olympic team



George Slifkas: Forgotten.

had been given a chance to prove themselves but he has resigned himself to performing well at the Sharks in the hope his name comes up again.

"I've been loyal to them and I haven't given me a look in."

Slifkas transferred from Heidelberg at the start of last

season and said it was a move he has not regretted.

"We didn't have a bad team at Heidelberg but about nine players packed up and left the club at the end of one season. I'm happy to be out of there now," he said.

Slifkas got to know Sharks coach Raul Blanco through the national teams the pair were involved in. Things worked out and the midfielder was soon recruited by the West.

He said Blanco's style of play has suited him and he was the next in a long list of West Adelaide players who promised the best was yet to come from the Sharks who are expected to peak for the finals campaign.

With the recruiting of Melbourne Zebras' midfielder Ross Aloisi, West Adelaide's established midfield has a reason to be worried but Slifkas said the pressure was good to have.

"It's a good thing. It will put pressure on us to think more about or games and perform well so Raul has got no reason to take us off," he said.

Slifkas's contract with the Sharks expires at the end of the season and he said his he would have to sit down and think about his future before making any more plans but indicated he was happy to keep playing with West Adelaide.

West Adelaide



BY PETER KRUPKA

Perth-born Jason Petkovic admits he has benefited from being in the right place at the right time and knowing the right people.

However, the talented goalkeeper has embraced the opportunity to prove himself at the highest level of Australian soccer and passed the test with flying colours.

As understudy to long-serving City keeper Robert Zabica last season, Petkovic learnt from "the master" what was required to be an NSL keeper.

Half way through his first season in the NSL he was selected to play for Australia, an honour the 22-year-old has struggled to come to grips with.

"I didn't really expect it so soon but it's always an honour to represent your country and I've been fortunate," Petkovic said.

Petkovic has not lived in the



Jason Petkovic: Right place at the right time.

shadow of Zabica. His family are good friends with the former Australian goalkeeper and Jason was recruited to the Zebras at the request of Zabica who planned to end his NSL career long before last year's grand final.

"I don't see myself as another Robert Zabica. You can't. He achieved so much and I'm only just starting," he said.

Petkovic's father kept for more

than 10 seasons at Perth club Spearwood Dalmatac and he was replaced by Zabica. Jason soon assumed the mental as goalie at the club when Zabica left for Adelaide.

Petkovic has now followed that path but has performed well enough in his own right to banish any suggestion he has not deserved his swift rise to fame.

"I'm playing well but I've also been a bit lucky with the ball hitting the post and I've also been making some lucky saves," he said.

Petkovic said settling into life at Adelaide City has been one of the easier things he has done in his short career. He said the support he has received from his experience defence has made his initiation into the NSL a success.

"Milan (Ivanovic), Alex (Tobin), Tony (Vidmar) and Sergi (Melta) are all playing so well in defence it makes my job a lot easier," he said.

"I can't see myself going to play anywhere else in Australia but it's every players dream to go and play overseas and I want to do that."

If Petkovic's form in his first season in the NSL is anything to go by, it will not be long before all his dreams are realised.

How to improve the NSL

Soccer fan and Central Coast (NSW) resident Peter Brayshaw, who lived in Canada for 25 years, argues that the National Soccer League should abandon its European league format and adopt the North American conference and division system.

How is the typical professional North American sports league organised? Is it similar to a European league, which runs a home and away single round robin? No!

The typical North American professional sports is organised into divisions and conferences. Why?

The advantages and summaries are as follows:

1) The number of derby games (games between teams in the same city) will increase, since teams in the same city would play in the same division hence better crowds. The additional derby games will involve less travelling, which means a saving on cost and time.

2) More winners: two, three or even four division winners instead of one minor premier. Since the fans like to follow a winning team, this will create greater crowds. In addition, fans prefer to follow a team that is no lower than sixth rather than 14th.

3) The possibility exists of obtaining individual sponsors for each of the divisions. A sponsor may not want an Australia wide sponsorship, but may take a Melbourne or Sydney division.

4) A play-off series is more legitimate, since there is no overall winner after the regular schedule so that it would be desirable to have more teams in a play-off series.

PRESENT SYSTEM

The present league with a home and away round robin has 26 rounds to give a total of 182 games.

The constitution also allows 16 teams. How does a divisional/conference system compare?

The number of teams in a single North American Division of ice hockey is six or seven, Canadian soccer is five, baseball is six, Canadian football is four.

16 TEAM OPTION

If a 16 team league is desirable, then this may be arranged in four divisions as follows:

Conference South-West

DIVISION WEST	DIVISION SOUTH
Morwell.....	Melbourne Knights
Adelaide City.....	South Melbourne
West Adelaide.....	Melbourne Zebras
Perth.....	Heidelberg

Conference North-East

DIVISION NORTH	DIVISION EAST
Brisbane.....	Sydney Olympic
Newcastle.....	Sydney United
Wollongong.....	Parramatta
Canberra.....	Marconi Fairfield

Each team would play a) each other team in the same division two home and away series, b) each team in the same conference a single home and away series, c) each team in one division of the other conference an away series, and d) each team in the other division of the other conference a home series.

A season would be $4 \times 3 + 2 \times 4 + 1 \times 4 + 1 \times 4 = 28$ games, which is similar to the present 26 round competition. If additional games were desirable, then additional games could be added to bring the total to 30, 32, 34 or 36 to make a complete home and away against all teams.

14 TEAM OPTION

If a 14 team league is desirable, then this is slightly more difficult but may be arranged as follows:

Conference South-West

DIVISION WEST	DIVISION SOUTH
Morwell.....	Melbourne Knights
Adelaide City.....	South Melbourne
West Adelaide.....	Melbourne Zebras
	Heidelberg

Conference North-East

DIVISION NORTH	DIVISION EAST
Brisbane.....	Sydney Olympic
Newcastle.....	Sydney United
Wollongong.....	Parramatta
	Marconi Fairfield

For a team in the three team division, they would play a) each team in the same division two home and away series, b) each team in the same conference a home and away series, c) each team in the four team division in the other conference, a single game (two home + two away), and d) each team in the three team division of the other conference, a home and away series. This is $4 \times 2 + 2 \times 4 + 1 \times 4 + 2 \times 3 = 26$ games.

For a team in the four team division, they would play a) each team in the same division two home and away series, b)



Matthew Bingley: His team Marconi would play more derby matches under a conference and division system.

each team in the same conference a home and away series, c) each team in the four team division in the other conference, a single game plus one team twice (either two home + three away or three home and two away), and d) each team in the three team division of the other conference, a single series (either one home and two away or two home and one away).

This is $4 \times 3 + 2 \times 3 + 1 \times (4 + 1) + 1 \times 3 = 26$ games with 13 home games.

12 TEAM FIRST OPTION

If a 12 team league is desirable, then

there is a three divisional set-up as follows:

DIV. MELB.	DIV. SYD.	DIV. REGIONAL
Melb. Knights.....	Syd Olympic.....	Brisbane
Sth Melb.....	Syd Utd.....	Adelaide City
Melb. SC.....	P'matta.....	West Ad.
Morwell.....	Marconi.....	Wollongong

Each team would play a home and away series against every team in the league and a second home and away series against every team in their division.

The proposed arrangement is a 28 game schedule ($11 \times 2 + 3 \times 2$). This gives a total of 168 games in contrast to 182 games for

the present 14 team league, although the season is two rounds longer.

12 TEAMS ALTERNATE OPTION

In addition, a two division set-up is possible as follows:

DIV. SOUTH-WEST	DIV. NORTH-EAST
Melb. Knights.....	Sydney Olympic
South Melbourne.....	Sydney United
Melbourne Zebras.....	Parramatta
Morwell.....	Marconi Fairfield
Adelaide City.....	Wollongong
West Adelaide.....	Brisbane

Each team would play a home-away round robin between all teams and a second home-away round robin between teams in the same division ($11 \times 2 + 5 \times 2 = 32$ games). This gives a total of 192 games in contrast to 182 games for the present 14 team league, although the season is six rounds longer.

A 12 team league would be stronger, since some of the better players of the relegated team would transfer to other national league clubs. A higher calibre league would attract additional fans.

Although the team threatened with relegation would be opposed, a 12 team league would be better for those teams in the league (one or three more home games and larger crowds).

PLAY-OFFS

How many teams make the play-off series in North America? 4 out of 24 (baseball), 16 out of 32 (USA football), 6 out of 10 (Canadian soccer), 6 out of 8 (Canadian football), and 16 out of 21 to 26 (ice hockey). From the Soccer World Cup play-offs, 16 teams made the next round out of 24. Divide both numbers by 2, which gives 8 teams out of 12!

Therefore, it is feasible to have eight teams in the play-offs for a 12 team league.

The final eight teams is settled later in the season, which maintains interest in the league.

There are more finals games for the fans to view.

The teams near eighth spot could easily upset the teams near the top spot, so that there are no easy games.

FOREIGN TEAMS

Both baseball and ice hockey leagues have Canadian and US teams. Canadian football now has US teams; however, in the past the Canadian government has stopped the US football league from having teams in Canada.

Therefore, it is conceivable to have foreign teams in a league.

HOW TIMES CHANGE

Australia now leads England



Steve Darby: Delighted.

The English Professional Footballer's Association has just released a comprehensive report written by Paul Power (ex Everton and Manchester City) on the state of Coaching and Development in England.

The report compared England with a number of countries which they believe are ahead of them. These included Sweden, Germany, Italy, Holland and Australia.

Steve Darby, National Development Officer, said "the ASF is delighted that our Coaching and Development programs are being recognised as quality programs by nations

that are considered to be leading World soccer. Many of the recommendations in this major report are already in place in Australian Soccer."

These include, a national modified game (RooBall), Intensive Training Centres, Specialist Goalkeeping Coaching Courses and Elite Player Coaching Courses.

ASF's National Director of Coaching Mike Wells is following their extensive discussions. Poulsen, besides being an accomplished team

development programs.

At the time of the World Youth Cup in 1993 FIFA commissioned him to write a major paper on the programs.

Other requests have come from Israel and Greece, the latter through former National Coach Alketas Panagoulas.

Just recently Jan Poulsen the coach of the Danish Olympic side went home with a swag of information provided by Wells following their extensive discussions. Poulsen, besides being an accomplished team

coach, is also a Management Consultant for the Danish FA and a long servicing member of their Technical Committee.

An interesting quote from the EPFA Report was that "only twice in the last 46 years has England made the last four in a FIFA Tournament" Australia has made the last four in three competitions in the last five years. (World Youth Cup 1991/93 and 1992 Olympics).

Obviously Australia, through its open mind policy of its technical staff, can be well



satisfied. Certainly it has no intention of becoming complacent.

The overriding aim is to clinch a number one spot in one of the four world championships.



NORTHERN DIVISION



BY PETER KONSTO

With a whole series of catch up matches and Round 17 now complete, the Northern Division Youth League has a new leader in the Australian Institute of Sport following their 0-0 draw with Sydney United at Edensor Park on Sunday.

This top of the table clash was virtually spoiled as a spectacle after just 10 minutes into the game thanks to some over zealous officiating by referee Jeff Tipton.

He issued a yellow card to United's Mark Rudan for what seemed quite an innocuous challenge on an opponent and then from the ensuing free-kick, sent Rudan off for encroachment of the 10 yards after the AIS's Josip Simunic had dummied the set piece kick.

With such a key player off the park, United coach, Lee Sterry had no option but to play with a lone striker up front, concentrate on soaking up the inevitable AIS pressure and try and catch them on a counter-attack.

And this is exactly what happened all game. The

Institute had by far the majority of the possession but simply could not penetrate a resolute United defence.

United's goalkeeper, John Perosh had an outstanding game saving well on a number of occasions, most notably from Con Blasis and Simunic who both saw well struck shots parried to safety.

United played well and did create some chances of their own with Sean Babic going close late in the second half.

For the Institute, Hayden Foxe and Simunic had great games with Michael Sinee, Lupco Trajceviski and Perosh the pick of the United bunch.

The Institute have not beaten United in the last two years and given the early set-back, coach Sterry was very pleased with the performance of his charges. "They showed plenty of heart and commitment. With four key players now away on the ASF Youth team tour, it's going to be up to my younger players to really show everyone what they're capable of now that they'll get their chance to perform over the next few weeks," he said.

Indeed, with Rudan, Paul Bilokapic, Richard Plesa and

	P	W	D	PW	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	18	14	2	0	2	58	15	44
Sydney United	18	13	3	0	2	40	12	42
Parramatta Eagles	18	13	0	0	5	48	26	39
Sydney Olympic	18	12	1	0	5	54	28	37
OAS	18	10	2	0	6	45	33	32
Marconi Fairfield	18	9	2	0	7	37	31	29
Wollongong City	18	9	1	0	8	43	36	28
North NSW Lions	18	9	1	0	8	34	33	28
ACT A.S.	18	8	3	0	7	35	27	27
Sydney Olympic Colts	18	7	3	0	8	30	30	24
Soccer NSW ITC	18	3	2	0	13	18	43	11
Parramatta Colts	18	2	4	0	12	22	42	10
Marconi Academy	18	2	4	0	12	17	59	10
Sydney Utd Colts	18	1	0	0	17	19	85	3

Joseph Vrkic on the tour, it will be a crucial period for United as they try to maintain their momentum over the coming weeks.

A hat-trick by Sydney Olympic captain, John Buonavoglia, did most of the damage in their 0-4 victory over the ACT Academy in Canberra on Saturday.

Olympic opened the scoring

after half an hour when a brilliant run by Ivo DeJesus saw him unselfishly pass to Buonavoglia for the simplest of goals.

The away side really came into their own in the second half and Buonavoglia extended their lead on the 52nd minute mark after he beat three players with a weaving run and smashed the ball home.

Full-back, Gary Mamolis made it three for Olympic only four minutes later to virtually secure the vital three away points.

Buonavoglia completed his hat-trick with only one minute remaining with a typical dribble, beating a number of ACT defenders before sending

RESULTS

ROUND 18 W/ENDING FEBRUARY 12, 1995

Sydney Olympic Colts 0
Wollongong City 2 (Luff 58, Guido 60)

Soccer NSW ITC 2 (Hayes 24, Poljak 49)
Parramatta Colts 2 (Lester 69, O'Grady 90)

ACT Academy 0 Sydney Olympic 4
(Buonavoglia 30, 52, 89, Mamolis 56)

North NSW Lions 7 (Lane 24, 41, 88 Parker 44, Zane 60, Howard 73, Moore 90)
Sydney United Colts 0

Sydney United 0 AIS 0

Parramatta Eagles 1 (Harding 40) QAS 0

Marconi Academy 0
Marconi Fairfield 3 (Harris 5, Valle 42, McDonald 58)

an unstoppable strike towards goal.

Wollongong City stay in touch with the leaders after their 0-2 win over the Sydney Olympic Colts.

A two minute period in the second half saw both Wolves' goals scored. Striker, Colin Luff opened the scoring after midfielder Chris Jankulovski won the ball in the middle of the park, sent a through-ball to Anthony Guido who passed to Luff. He beat off the challenges of three defenders and an advancing goalkeeper to crack the ball home after 58 minutes.

Two minutes later, a similar build-up involving Jankulovski

and Luff presented an opportunity for Guido who made it two for the Wolves.

A single first-half goal by David Harding was enough for the Parramatta Eagles to overcome a determined QAS to now see the Eagles in third sport on the ladder.

In the other games played this round, Soccer NSW and the Parramatta Colts held each other to a 2-2 draw, the Northern NSW Lions demolished bottom placed Sydney United Colts 7-0, while Marconi Fairfield defeated their name — sake Colts 3-0 to keep hopes of a finals place alive.

ROUND 19 W/ENDING FEBRUARY 19, 1995

FRI Parramatta Colts v Sydney Olympic Colts	7.30	Melita Stadium
SAT Marconi Fairfield v ACT Academy	5.30	Marconi Stadium
SAT Sydney Utd Colts v Soccer NSW ITC	5.00	Syd Croat Spts Cen
SAT AIS v Marconi Academy	7.00	AIS Athletics Field
SAT QAS v Sydney United	4.45	Perry Park
SUN Wollongong City v Parramatta Eagles	4.30	Brandon Park
SUN Sydney Olympic v North NSW Lions	4.30	Leichhardt Oval



SOUTHERN DIVISION



ROUND 17

BY ROY HAY

South Melbourne had a convincing 5-1 win over Green Gully at Green Gully Reserve, though the Greens took an early lead when winger Adrian Vella and Mario Makris set up David Perry for the opening goal after 17 minutes.

Then the Blues moved into top gear with Con Komilionis completing a hat-trick in 35, 40 and 78 minutes.

In between Con Harbis and Bill Damianos added further goals for South Melbourne. For Green Gully Ben McDermid fought hard as sweeper and Adam Cimino came on to carry the fight to South Melbourne.

For the Blues, Damianos, Sasha Nikolic, Con Harbis and hat-trickster Komilionis stood out.

Melbourne Knights came away from Elcho Park with a 2-0 win over North Geelong to retain second place. Coach Sveto Rastocic said North was the best team outside the

National League youth sides and he was pleased to take the result. Both goals had an element of controversy.

Branko Bacak seemed to handle the ball before scoring the first after 41 minutes from a Paul Magdic flick.

Then North keeper Josip Didulica was challenged by Ilija Dragicevic for a high ball.

The keeper had the ball in his possession but turned towards his own goal to remonstrate with Dragicevic and in the process carried the ball over his goal-line for a bizarre own goal.

This negated much good play by North, including a shot by Josip Skoko which came back off the post with keeper Adrian Cagalj beaten for once.

Heidelberg United and the Victorian Institute of Sport drew 1-1 at Olympic Village. The two goals came within a minute of each other, as Damir Gnjidic opened for the Bergers after 27 minutes and John Maisano replied instantly for the VIS.

Bulleen Lions just squeezed home against Melbourne Zebras by 3-2 at Green Gully

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
South Melbourne	18	15	1	2	52	12	46
Melbourne Knights	18	14	2	2	73	26	44
Heidelberg United	18	13	2	3	61	20	41
Melbourne Zebras	18	12	2	4	40	20	38
Morwell Falcons	18	12	0	6	53	23	36
Nth Geelong Warriors	18	10	4	4	34	20	34
Bulleen Lions	18	7	7	4	34	28	28
VIS	18	8	2	8	42	22	26
Altona Magic	18	5	2	11	30	61	17
Springvale City Reds	18	3	4	11	27	50	13
Green Gully	18	4	0	14	15	56	12
Pt Melb Sharks	18	3	2	13	29	55	11
Preston Lions	18	3	1	14	23	75	10
Sunshine Georgies	18	2	1	15	23	68	7

NB 3 points for a win

Reserve in the late match. Jack Androulidakis and Adrian Caniglia scored for the Zebras, but Bulleen replied through David Iebbiani and Adrian Uliana. Then just on time Peter Groidis got the clinching goal for the Lions.

Morwell Falcons had a

canter against a short-handed Altona Magic in the Latrobe Valley. Leading 7-0 at the break, the Falcons went on to score 13 without reply. Richard Teppaa was chief executioner, scoring five goals, equalling the largest haul this season.

Brian Bothwell had a run to assist in regaining his fitness and he scored four goals to show his sharpness. James Alesi got two more and singles fell to Dean Vella and Jason Koppen.

Preston Lions got a rare win when it beat Port Melbourne Sharks by 2-0 at Anderson Reserve. One goal came in each half, the first to Zlatko Donev, the second to Dragan Nastevski.

Springvale City Reds took a

RESULTS

ROUND 18 - SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12, 1995

Morwell Falcons 13 (Richard Teppaa 5, Brian Bothwell 4, James Alesi 2, Dean Vella, Jason Koppen) Altona Magic 0

Melbourne Zebras 2 (Jack Androulidakis, Adrian Caniglia) Bulleen Lions 3 (David Iebbiani, Adrian Uliana, Peter Groidis)

Green Gully 1 (David Perry) South Melbourne 5 (Con Komilionis 3, Con Harbis, Bill Damianos)

Port Melbourne Sharks 0 Preston Lions 2 (Zlatko Donev, Dragan Nastevski)

Sunshine Georgies 2
(Sasha Markovski, Justin Scrobogna)
Springvale City Reds 3 (Stefan Rudzki 2, Tony Spina)

North Geelong Warriors 0
Melbourne Knights 2 (Branko Bacak, own goal)

Heidelberg United 1 (Damir Gnjidic)
VIS 1 (John Maisano) 1

3-0 first half lead away to Sunshine Georgies, but were pegged back to 3-2 by a Georgies revival in the second half.

Stefan Rudzki scored twice for the Reds and Tony Spina

got another, though the Georgies defence was complicit in all three goals. Then Sasha Markovski and Justin Scrobogna led the counter-attack, but Georgies could not find an equaliser.

LEADING GOALSCORERS

17	Con Komilionis	(South Melbourne)
14	Josip Skoko	(North Geelong)
13	Daniel Alsopp	(VIS)
12	Branko Bacak	(Melb Knights)
11	Luciano Stolica	(Melb Knights)
11	Richard Teppaa	(Morwell Falcons)
10	Peter Groidis	(Bulleen)
10	George Peppas	(Heidelberg United)

ROUND 19 DRAW

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 1995

v Green Gully (Paisley Reserve, 8.00pm)
v Morwell Falcons (Paisley Reserve, 6.00pm)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 1995

v Melbourne Zebras (Melb. Croatian S C 4.30pm)
v North Geelong Warriors (Ross Reserve, 7.00pm)
v Heidelberg United (Veneto Social C., 4.30pm)
v Sunshine Georgies (Connor Reserve, 4.30pm)

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 1995

v Port Melbourne Sharks (Olympic Park, 6.00pm)

Altona Magic
VIS

Melbourne Knights
Springvale City Reds
Bulleen Lions
Preston Lions

South Melbourne

WOMEN'S WRITES

COMPILED BY JANENE MAR

Women benefit from SFS experience

Three quality goals were scored by Australia on Saturday at the Sydney Football Stadium in what has been great exposure for the National Team and Women's soccer in general.

The match did not truly reflect the standard capable of the team, and players perhaps suffered from nervousness and selection pressures. Coach Tom Sermanni however was not displeased.

"I was quite happy with the game", he said. "Considering a lot of them had just flown in that afternoon for the match, and most of the younger players hadn't played for a while. Also the number of



Tom Sermanni

substitutions seemed to unsettle the flow of the game".

Sermanni added, "The whole thing was a good exercise. The girls certainly didn't do themselves any

harm in terms of PR. We were quite happy with the crowd reaction".

"For those who didn't go to Japan, it was their first time playing in a football arena and in front of a crowd. It helped to make them feel like proper footballers."

The match also emphasised the fact that there is a strong crop of youngsters coming through. "No one out there looked as if they didn't belong and when you look at the make up of the u/23 side, they're basically an u/21 team, plus I had Casagrande and Prouten (21) playing with the seniors", said Sermanni.

In terms of World Cup Selection, the match played its part in Sermanni's total

program to date. Rapidly approaching the business end of preparations, the squad of around 30 will be cut to 26 at the end of the 3-day camp. Twenty players will end up making the trip to Sweden.

"I have about 10 players vying for the last four spots. Competition is very even and they all deserve to be there - they've all made sacrifices. But I also need to try to balance the team to fit the circumstances. This is my main problem - but obviously no different to any other coaching job," explained Sermanni of the task before him.

Sermanni was reluctant to single out any individuals, but mentioned Kaylene Janssen in having a good match, reflecting the hard work and commitment she has put in getting from a squad member to a player in the starting line-up.

Janssen was modest in her reflection of the game. "I thought I played alright, but the match was a lot slower than what we played in the U.S. I think we can play a lot better. But it's all part of the building process for the World Cup - it all helps".

Neither team took full advantage of the width of the park and for much of the time it appeared very crowded in the middle. However whenever the ball was played up the flanks, especially through Janssen on the left, the attack looked more dangerous.

Similarly, Michelle Watson is now pushing for a



Claire Nichols: Australia Under-23 goalkeeper.

spot. Watson has knuckled down after some earlier disappointments of non-selection and it is now paying off.

Sermanni and goalkeeper coach Paul Jones are very pleased with WA's Denise Lofthouse after giving six keepers a chance in the match. First noticed at last year's Nationals, Sermanni

was impressed with her attitude and invited her into camp.

"Denise first came to us with a few technical faults", said Jones. "We gave her some drills to work on, and after a lot of extra effort, those faults have now disappeared from her game. Always eager to ask questions and learn more,

she is certainly putting pressure on the other two."

Coach Tom Sermanni leaves on Wednesday for the all important World Cup draw in Helsingborg, Sweden.

Three groups of four teams will be drawn out at the ceremony. Sermanni hopes to also check out the facilities during his stay.

PROUTEN DOUBLE

After a nervous start, some good chances were created at both ends.

A multitude of substitutions in the 34th minute seemed to unsettle the u/23's with Australia firing in two quick goals two and four minutes later respectively.

Michelle Prouten came off the bench to open the scoring with a sensational shot on the turn from outside the box, chipping over the keeper into the far top corner.

Prouten then supplied the cross into the middle of the box for Linda Hughes to pounce and get an outstretched foot to the ball ahead of the advancing keeper.

In the second half, Australia seemed to tire, and possession was dominated by the u/23's although they found it hard to penetrate the defence.

Then in the 66th minute, again after

several substitutions, Australia once more found their scoring touch. Following some good lead up work from Lisa Casagrande, Prouten struck another long range chip into the top of the net.

The younger side refused to give up and continued to attack. Some good chances were created by both sides but the score remained at 3-0.

AUSTRALIA: Wheeler, Cooper, Dakley, Pentecost, Gegenhuber, Tann, Janssen, Murray, Lembryk, Hughes, Casagrande, Bartlett, Green, Prouten, Dunne, Lynch, Lofthouse.

AUST U/23: Nichols, Smith, McMurtrie, Powell, Starr, Salisbury, Watson, Hadden, Bean, Pampa, Fisher, Revell, Youngblutt, Doss, King, Schafer.

EXPANDED NSW WSL FOR '95

NSW's Women's State League (WSL) has this year grown to a 30 team competition from the 20 sides that competed last season.

The new look WSL now encompasses almost all major points of the greater Sydney area as well as country regions Newcastle and Bathurst. Geographically it stretches from Newcastle in the north, Campbelltown in the south, inland to Bathurst, and Cronulla on the coast.

Soccer NSW's Women's Soccer Council has expanded the league to now include a Second Division, supplementing the existing Division One where clubs are required to field First and Reserve Grade teams.

The NSW WSL is considered as the premier domestic league in Australia and it seemed a natural progression for it to expand further after a very successful year in 1994.

"Division Two will help bridge the gap between local soccer and the elite WSL Division One", said WSC Vice Chairperson Jeff Soul.

"We are looking to cater for players at all levels, and in this instance we have

encouraged top local clubs to take the challenge of moving a step up. It will also help to expose our younger players to a higher level of competition and create better opportunities."

Eight teams are entered in Division Two in its inaugural season and the year should prove this to be an interesting concept with big scope for the future.

Division One also promises great things for '95, and has also grown to now comprise 11 clubs.

Women's Soccer in NSW, recently affiliated to NSW, will have representation of two clubs in Division One - Newcastle Port Stephens plus NNSW ITC/Magpies. This follows on from the success of Hunter Districts last year, the first Newcastle side to make the trip south, which certainly boosted the standard of the league as a whole.

Of particular interest will be the match up between the Northern and NSW ITC/Academy sides.

The First Grade competition in this World Cup year will field more

Australian Squad members than ever. Of the 30 on display last Saturday at the Sydney Football Stadium, 16 will be competing in the WSL.

WSL's solid reputation is continuing to attract top players from interstate. Australian Captain Julie Murray last year made the move north from her Canberra home to sign up for Sydney Olympic, with young Queenslander Trena Youngblutt also setting in Sydney to play for Marconi.

As reported here last week, Queensland goalkeeper Claire Nichols has now made the commitment to fly down each week to take the field for Liverpool City in her bid for World Cup selection.

The expanded league will mean a greater overall depth and will provide many intense battles.

Sydney Olympic, last year's Premiers and Champions, along with Marconi and Newcastle Pt Stephens would on paper look to again fight it out for top spot. However with their high concentration of World Cup Squad members, these teams may have to rely on

player depth as there will be long periods with players away on international duty.

This should certainly prove an intriguing factor for this year's league and provide added excitement as competition for semi-final spots will be tighter than ever before.

Other clubs will be keen to create an upset at the top this year.

All the action kicks off on March 19.

1995 WSL

LINE-UP

DIVISION ONE

BLACKTOWN CITY

Club's first venture into women's football. Have 'adopted' many of Rooty Hill's players and staff.

CRONULLA RSL

WSL newcomer. Apparently have a solid base of players with previous WSL experience.

GLADESVILLE RAVENS

Longest surviving WSL club. Hoping to go one better and reach semi's after finishing fifth last year.

LIVERPOOL CITY

Fourth season in WSL.

Have recruited Aussie goalkeeper Claire Nichols from Queensland.

MARCONI

Have busily recruited a larger squad to compensate for the absences of their many World Cup contenders.

NEWCASTLE PORT STEPHENS

New club to WSL. Boast many players from Hunter Districts with a strong Australian team connection.

NNSW ITC/MAGPIES

Making their WSL debut. Comprised of the NNSW ITC squad newly formed by coach Mark Jones.

NSW ACADEMY

NSW's young Academy team back this year with ITC coach Tony Walmsley now at the helm.

PENRITH

Returning again to Reserve Grade. Hoping to consolidate their position and build to two teams next year.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Notched up some good results at the end of last year. Very keen to make an impact this season.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Took out all the awards in '94 but will be challenged to repeat that performance

with several players on international duty.

UWS MACARTHUR

New to the scene. Have several players on board from last year's successful White City team.

DIVISION TWO

BATHURST CITY

Making a welcome return to WSL after a year's absence. Should be a very competitive side.

CSI SCHOFIELDS

First experience of WSL football. One of the growing number of teams from the western suburbs.

FAIRFIELD BULLS

New club fielding two teams in Division Two. Aiming to build a solid future for the club.

MACARTHUR JUNIORS

Hoping to put pressure on their senior counterparts. Good to see Macarthur developing their juniors.

MACARTHUR SENIORS

Macarthur are aiming to consolidate their WSL position after taking the Division One wooden spoon last year.

SUTHERLAND

Sutherland are to be

congratulated on being the first to enter three teams in WSL. Will give plenty of youngsters a good opportunity.

UWS NEPEAN

Returning after a shaky debut season last year. Hoping to make big improvements this season.

BRAZIL SECURES BERTH FOR SWEDEN '95

Brazil will be the South American representative at the 1995 Women's World Championship. They sailed through the qualifiers in Bolivia ahead of Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, and Bolivia. Having been forced into an early departure straight after the group games at the first World championship in China in 1991, the South Americans will be going all out to improve their record in Sweden.

THE GREAT STANLEY MATTHEWS

BY MIKE COLLETT
OF REUTERS

The trick rarely varied, and the opposing left-back knew all about it.

They knew about it in Bolton and in Budapest and in Manchester and Madrid, but none of them could do anything about it.

And if the still very springtily Sir Stanley Matthews were to do it again on February 1, his 80th birthday, his old adversaries would probably fall for it all over again.

Throughout his 33-year career on the right wing, Matthews took the ball nearer an opponent than anyone has ever done, fooled them with a shimmy to the left and beat them for pace on the right.

That was the magic of Matthews. Everyone knew what he was going to do, yet no-one could stop him doing it.

"The Wizard of the Dribble" did that trick over and over again, from the day he made his debut for Stoke as a 17-year-old in March 1932 until he played his last match for the club in February 1965 when he was 50 years and five days old.

Then he did it for a further 20-odd years, albeit at a rather more leisurely pace, in charity and exhibition matches and coaching clinics everywhere from Soweto to San Francisco. Until his mid-60s he even did it for his local post office team in a Wednesday afternoon league when he lived in Malta.

And to this day he says he cannot explain his unique ability.

"Don't ask me how I did it but it always come out of me under pressure," he said.

Part of the secret was that he perfected his close ball control as a child, kicking a ball made of old socks and rags against a wall for hours every day.

Harry Johnston, his former captain at Blackpool and an England colleague, said the secret lay in "his incredible balance, tight ball control and the speed of an Olympic sprinter over the

80 NOT OUT!

first 10 yards."

Whatever it was, the gift was to lead him to greatness, and in the years after World War II he came to symbolise English soccer, and the game in general, for millions around the world.

In an era before global television he became soccer's first superstar, years before the term was coined.

Accolades have followed him throughout his life which began in the village of Hanley, near Stoke in the English Midlands, on February 1, 1915.

In 1948 he became English soccer's first

player of the year — an award he won again at the age of 48 in 1963. In 1956 he became the first European player of the year and the following year was crowned king of world soccer as part of Ghana's independence celebrations.



In 1965 he became the first footballer to be knighted, and 10 years ago they erected a statue of him in Hanley.

Never a great scorer — he got only 82 goals in over 750 first-class appearances — Matthews was the creator supreme, setting up chances galore from the wing for his centre-forwards and inside-forwards.

He inherited some of his physical attributes from his father, a barber and part-time boxer, and by the time he was 15 his potential had been spotted by Stoke City — even if at the age he

mainly worked as an office boy.

Within two years he was a regular in the side and in 1934 he made his debut for England. Including unofficial wartime matches, he played 84 times for England, the latest against Scotland in 1957 when he was 42.

He left his boyhood club in an (now more than \$A24,271.90) transfer to Blackpool in 1947 and played the most famous match of his long career in its tangerine shirt in 1953 — 'the Matthews Cup Final'.

He was already 38 and after suffering defeat with Blackpool in the 1948 and

1951 finals, knew this was probably his last chance of realising his life's ambition of an FA Cup winner's medal.

Blackpool was trailing 3-1 to Bolton but in the last 20 minutes he produced probably the greatest one-man performance ever seen at Wembley, turning the game around with his mesmerising skills to give Blackpool a 4-3 victory.

Stan Mortensen scored a hat-trick but the match has gone down in history as the Matthews Final — something that still embarrasses Matthews as he believes it should have become known as Mortensen's final.

He stayed at Blackpool until 1961 when he returned to Stoke and immediately quadrupled the club's average gate of 9,000.

Despite his advancing years, he galvanised the club and helped it back into the old first division in 1963. He scored just one goal that season — the one that clinched promotion.

The knighthood followed when he retired in 1965 but his lifelong modesty has never deserted him.

He hates the round of formal dinners being held to celebrate his birthday and he hates anyone calling him "Sir Stanley".

Looking remarkably fit and physically much the same as in his playing days, he still gives the impression that he would be happiest playing football somewhere and says he is still upset because he quit when he was "too young".

"If I have one regret it is that I hung up my boots too soon," he said. "I really feel I could have played until my mid-50s."

His last professional game was 30 years ago next weekend and for millions of fans now approaching middle age themselves, their only image of Matthews is from old grainy newsreel pictures.

But even in black-and-white, his genius shines through. There is no mistaking the dip of the shoulder to the left and the jink outside to the right. He will forever be far too clever for those poor old left-backs.



Sir Stanley Matthews: In action against Arsenal's Ian McPherson in October 1947. A 33-year career full of highlights.

THE SOCCER REFEREE:

The world's most unwanted job

BY MIKE COLLETT
OF REUTERS

Physical attacks, threatening telephone calls and police escorts are all frequent occurrences for the much maligned men in the middle of English soccer.

The debate regarding the role of the referee has reached new heights this season following instructions from FIFA, ordering referees to strictly punish dangerous play, professional fouls and tackling from behind.

FIFA's general secretary Sepp Blatter says in the newly published technical report into the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States: "FIFA's new directives were a major factor in the success of the competition."

Few people would disagree with him.

But dozens of managers, players and coaches in England are upset about the way in which a strict application of the laws is being interpreted in England.

They blame the referees for inconsistency, insensitivity and pettiness — and while the histrionics of some referees seem to prove the managers' points, statistics show otherwise.

Figures collated from comparable top divisions in England, Germany, Belgium and Spain this season prove the English game has adapted to the rule changes imposed by FIFA better than any other.

On average there are fewer bookings and dismissals in England than in any of the other three countries analysed.

The problem is that the referees' clampdown is naturally perceived as being destructive and negative for the game by those affected most by it.

On a recent Saturday, Arsenal became the third premier league team in the last two weeks to end a match with only nine men — a rare occurrence not so long ago.

Not long after Blackburn goalkeeper Tim Flowers was sent off after just 72 seconds against Leeds — believed to be the second fastest dismissal in English history and the fastest ever in the top



Jürgen Klinsmann: Was the victim of a terrible challenge but the referee allowed the perpetrator to stay on the field.

division.

Altogether 52 players have been sent off in the premier league so far this season.

The total number for the season in England's top four divisions now stands at

213 and the all-time record of 239 set last season looks certain to be beaten.

In stark contrast, in 1946-47, the first season after World War II in England, just 12 players were sent off. In 1949-50, only 14 were dismissed.

Managers are angry that refereeing decisions are having such a big impact on important games and that referees seem to be so inconsistent.

Whereas Rodger Gifford sent off Flowers for bringing down Leeds striker

Brian Deane, Robbie Hart allowed Aston Villa's goalkeeper Mark Bosnich to stay on the field for what looked like a far more dangerous challenge on Jürgen Klinsmann which ended with the Tottenham player unconscious and carried off.

Wimbledon manager Joe Kinnear has called for the introduction of video replay evidence on marginal calls.

Joe Royle slammed the match official who sent off two of his Everton players against Newcastle recently as showing "more insensitivity than any other referee I've seen in 30 years in football."

Blackburn's Kenny Dalglish said a controversially disallowed goal when his side lost 1-0 at Manchester United two weeks ago could yet cost his side the championship title.

Referee Keith Cooper spoke this week of personal attacks, threatening phonecalls to his family and hate mail. He now insists on a police escort for him and his linesmen off the pitch at the end of a match.

"I think a referee has to be a certain type of person and if it's too hot for him, he has to decide whether he wants to stay in the kitchen. It's certainly getting hotter," he said.

Mario van der Ende of the Netherlands, one of the referees at last year's World Cup finals, says he is convinced the answer to the problem is to have professional referees "in order to keep up with a game that is constantly changing and the never-ending extra demands that it makes."

Another answer to the problem, of course, is for the players to change.

Stanley Matthews, who celebrated his 80th birthday on February 1 (see story opposite page), was never booked or sent off in his 33-year career.

Former England captain Gary Lineker who has just retired can boast a similar unblemished record throughout his 17 years as a professional.

If all the 2,000 professional players in England were so like minded, no-one would have any problems at all.

SOLID SAUDI STUNS SHILTON

The English goalkeeper, Peter Shilton, has been heading the list of players with the most international appearances for years.

But it has been rumoured for a long time that the total number of caps collected by the Saudi Arabian striker, Majed Abdullah, could have broken Shilton's record by more than a few.

Papers recently sent in by his association now proved beyond doubt that Majed Abdullah really has played in 147 "A" internationals — 22 more than Shilton.

Majed Abdullah (also known as Majed Ahmed Mohammed) first sported the kingdom's colours in a friendly versus the Republic of Korea in 1978.

His last official splash for the time being was engraved on many a football fan's memory: when Saudi Arabia sprang a surprise win against Belgium at the last group



Majed Abdullah: 22 caps ahead of Shilton.

game on June 29, 1994 in Washington, the 35-year-old veteran had been in action for one half of the match.

Nicknamed "Desert Pelé" for his speed, supremacy in the air and determination,

Majed Abdullah has been Asia's "footballer of the year" three times during his career, time and again league champion and cup winner with his club, Al Naser, and the league's top goal scorer, not to mention his "Golden Shoe" award twice over as the best goal scorer of the entire Arab world.

Before Saudi Arabia qualified for the 1994 World Cup where they advanced to the round of 16, Majed Abdullah had played a large part in their capture of the Asian championship titles in 1984 and 1988 and in qualifying for the 1984 Olympic Games.

He would have notched up far more than 150 internationals if he had not missed the Asian qualifiers in Doha, Qatar, in October 1993 (apart from the goalless

start against Japan) and several practice matches played by his team in the run-up to the 1994 World Cup.

FIFA has scrutinised the list sent in by the Saudi association.

The main obstacle was the player's variety of names that demanded meticulous comparison of information on international matches in the data bank, which yielded supposedly different players. The investigation, in fact, revealed that it concerns one and the same player.

A number of games had to be disregarded because Olympic preliminaries, for instance, do not count as "A" internationals.

But any previous doubts that existed about the other appearances have now been completely dispelled. The Saudi association has corroborated its claims by sending FIFA a letter of confirmation.

WORLD MOST CAPPED PLAYERS

RANKING:	INTERNATIONALS
1. Majed Abdullah (Saudi Arabia)	147
2. Peter Shilton (England)	125
3. Lothar Matthäus (Germany)	122
4. Thomas Ravelli (Sweden)	121
5. Pat Jennings (Northern Ireland)	119
6. Heinz Hermann (Switzerland)	117
7. Björn Nordqvist (Sweden)	115
8. Dino Zoff (Italy)	112
9. Héctor Chumpitaz (Peru)	111
10. Oleg Blochin (Russia)	109
11. Ladislav Bóloni (Romania)	108
Bobby Moore (England)	108
13. Bobby Charlton (England)	106
14. Billy Wright (England)	106
15. Grzegorz Lato (Poland)	104
Torbjörn Svensson (Norway)	104
17. Franz Beckenbauer (Germany)	103
18. Soon-Ho Choi (Korea Republic)	102
Kenny Dalglish (Scotland)	102
Kazimierz Deyna (Poland)	102
Morten Olsen (Denmark)	102
Joachim Streich (Germany)	102
Alain Geiger (Switzerland)	102
24. József Bozsik (Hungary)	100
Djalma Santos (Brazil)	100
Hans J. Dörner (Germany)	100

WORLD RESULTS AND TABLES

GREEK FIRST DIVISION

— February 12 —

Apollon	0	Olympiakos	2
Doxa	1	Aris	0
Ethnikos	1	Athinaikos	2
Iraklis	2	OFI	1
Larissa	1	Panionios	0
Levadiakos	1	Ionikos	0
Xanthi	3	PAOK	0
AEK	3	Kavala	0
Edessaikos	0	Panathinaikos	2

TABLE

Panathinaikos	19	16	3	0	49	9	51
AEK	19	11	6	2	38	15	39
OFI	18	11	3	4	27	17	36
Olympiakos	19	10	3	6	35	16	33
PAOK	19	10	3	6	35	19	33
Iraklis	19	10	3	6	34	23	33
Apollon	19	8	3	8	28	21	27
Xanthi	19	7	6	6	27	25	27
Aris	19	8	3	8	19	21	27
Larissa	19	7	5	7	18	20	26
Edessaikos	19	7	3	9	22	30	24
Athinaikos	19	5	6	8	11	13	21
Panionios	19	5	5	9	18	28	20
Doxa	19	5	4	10	16	38	19
Levadiakos	19	5	3	11	15	31	18
Ethnikos	19	3	7	9	15	29	16
Ionikos	19	4	4	11	14	34	16
Kavala	18	2	2	14	7	39	8

SPANISH CUP THIRD ROUND

FIRST LEG MATCHES

— February 8 —

Athletic Bilbao	4	Real Betis	0
Toledo	1	Real Mallorca	1
Palamos	0	Rayo Vallacano	1
Albacete	2	Real Zaragoza	1
Sporting Gijon	1	Badajoz	1
Leiria	0	Deportivo Coruna	3
Barcelona	1	Atletico Madrid	4
Real Madrid	1	Valencia	2

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION

— February 12 —

Sevilla	1	Valencia	1
Real Zaragoza	1	Real Sociedad	1

Compostela	1	Real Oviedo	1
Espanol	3	Real Valladolid	0
Sporting Gijon	3	Dep. Coruna	1
Athletic Bilbao	1	Celta	1
Albacete	3	Real Betis	1
Atletico Madrid	3	Tenerife	1
Racing Santander	5	Barcelona	0
Logrones	1	Real Madrid	4

TABLE

Real Madrid	21	14	5	2	52	16	33
Deportivo Coruna	21	10	8	3	34	20	28
Barcelona	21	11	5	5	35	29	27
Real Zaragoza	21	11	4	6	32	27	26
Real Batis	21	8	9	4	27	13	25
Athletic Bilbao	21	8	7	6	18	19	23
Espanol	21	7	8	6	28	21	22
Tenerife	21	8	6	7	29	24	22
Sevilla	21	8	6	7	26	23	22
Real Sociedad	21	5	10	6	25	23	20
Valencia	21	6	8	7	27	26	20
Real Oviedo	21	7	6	8	22	22	20
Compostela	21	6	8	7	22	29	20
Celta	21	5	9	7	18	28	19
Albacete	21	5	8	8	28	35	18
Atletico Madrid	21	6	5	10	32	32	17
Racing Santander	21	6	5	10	25	28	17
Sporting Gijon	21	5	7	9	25	38	17
Real Valladolid	21	4	8	9	14	37	16
Logrones	21	1	6	14	7	37	8

BELGIAN FIRST DIVISION

— February 11 —

Beveren	2	Lierse	2
Anderlecht	3	Aalst	2
Charleroi	2	Molenbeek	0
Sint-Truiden	1	Ostend	1
Mechelen	0	Ghent	0
Antwerp	2	Cercle Brugge	1
Standard Liege	1	FC Liege	0
Club Brugge	p	Ekeren	p
Seraing	5	Lommel	0

TABLE

Anderlecht	21	15	4	2	55	22	34
Standard Liege	22	14	5	3	35	17	33
Club Brugge	20	13	4	3	50	19	30
Lierse	21	9	5	7	34	36	23
Seraing	22	8	7	7	36	27	23
Aalst	21	9	4	8	44	43	22

Mechelen	22	8	5	9	28	28	21
Ekeren	20	7	7	6	38	26	21
Molenbeek	22	7	7	8	23	27	21
Charleroi	22	7	7	8	22	29	21
Sint-Truiden	22	6	9	7	22	26	21
Antwerp	22	8	4	10	34	34	20
Lommel	21	7	6	8	24	27	20
Beveren	22	6	8	8	27	33	20
Ghent	21	7	4	10	26	38	18
Cercle Brugge	22	6	5	11	27	38	17
Ostend	22	3	6	13	22	52	12
FC Liege	21	2	5	14	24	49	9

FRENCH FIRST DIVISION

— February 11 —

Lyon 3 (Maurice 41st, 51st, 65th) Lille 1 (Assadourian 88th). 1-0. 20,000
Metz 2 (Pouget 48th, Kastendeuch 75th pen)
Paris SG 0. 0-0. 19,000
Cannes 0 Rennes 1 (Andre 12th). 0-1. 4,000
Auxerre 1 (Laslandes 64th) Caen 1 (Andersson 45th pen). 0-1. 8,000
Strasbourg 0 Montpellier 0. 12,000
Monaco 1 (Anderson 35th) Le Havre 2 (Caveglia 46th, 55th pen). 1-0. 1,000
Sochaux 2 (Blanc 29th, Cuervo 34th) St Etienne 0. 2-0. 4,000
Bastia 1 (Vandecasteele 28th) Nice 1 (Chaouch 6th). 1-1. 7,000
Lens 2 (Boli 18th, Eloi 87th) Bordeaux 1 (Bancarel 7th). Halftime 1-1. 20,000

TABLE

Nantes	25	15	10	0	48	19	55
Lyon	26	14	8	4	42	24	50
Paris St Germain	26	14	5	7	38	25	47
Auxerre	26	9	13	4	41	25	40
Lens	25	10	10	5	32	23	40
Cannes	26	12	4	10	35	27	40
Le Havre	26	9	11	6	32	26	38
Strasbourg	26	10	8	8	34	29	38
Metz	26	10	6	10	35	34	36
Bordeaux	25	10	6	9	32	31	36
Monaco	26	8	9	9	27	24	33
Martignes	25	8	9	8	27	32	33
Rennes	26	8	8	10	30	41	32
St Etienne	26	8	6	12	32	33	30
Lille	26	8	6	12	19	33	30

Montpellier	26	5	11	10	25	38	26
Nice	26	6	7	13	26	38	25
Bastia	26	6	7	13	24	39	25
Caen	26	6	4	16	22	40	22
Sochaux	26	6	4	16	26	46	22

DUTCH FIRST DIVISION

— February 12 —

Ajax Amsterdam 4 (Finidi 33rd, Frank de Boer 49th, Van Vossen 57th, Blind 62nd) Feyenoord Rotterdam 1 (Larsson 26th). Half-time 1-1. Attendance 42,000.
RKC Waalwijk 2 (Van Rijswijk 60th, Brands 63rd) Utrecht 1 (Smolarek 87th). Half-time 0-0. No attendance given.
Groningen 2 (Bombarda 8th, Schreuder 27th) NEC Nijmegen 2 (Van Diemen 73rd, Hoekman 89th). Half-time 2-0. Attendance 11,080.
PSV Eindhoven 3 (Ronaldo 54th, Linskens 68th, Hoekstra 79th) Vitesse Arnhem 2 (Latuhu 28th, Cocu 89th). Half-time 0-1. Attendance 27,800.
MVV Maastricht 0 Sparta Rotterdam 0. Half-time 0-0. Attendance 5,000.
Heerenveen 1 (Roelofsen 38th) Twente Enschede 4 (Boerebach 10th, Mols 19th, Bruggink 55th and 73rd). Half-time 1-2. Attendance 13,400.
Volendam 0 Willem II Tilburg 0. Half-time 0-0. Attendance 2,000.

TABLE

Ajax Amsterdam	20	15	5	0	55	16	35
Roda JC Kerkrade	19	12	6	1	38	14	30
Twente Enschede	19	11	6	2	47	29	28
PSV Eindhoven	20	11	5	4	49	25	27
Willem II Tilburg	21	9	6	6	29	23	24
F Rotterdam	18	10	3	5	38	31	23
Heerenveen	20	10	3	7	34	35	23
Vitesse Arnhem	20	7	7	6	30	31	21
Volendam	21	5	9	7	23	25	19
MVV Maastricht	20	6	5	9	26	35	17
Sparta Rotterdam	21	6	5	10	30	33	17
Groningen	19	5	6	8	27	33	16
MAC Breda	19	4	7	8	27	33	15
Utrecht	19	5	5	9	22	32	13
NEC Nijmegen	20	5	5	10	31	38	15
RKC Waalwijk	20	5	5	10	27	36	15
QAE Deventer	18	1	6	11	14	45	8
Dordrecht '90	20	0	6	14	15	44	6

LATEST FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

NIGERIA LOSES YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP

The International Football Federation (FIFA) has cancelled next month's world youth soccer championship in Nigeria because of an unacceptable health risk to players.

FIFA said it would discuss the possibility of an alternative venue this week, although officials had earlier said finding another site at such short notice would be tough.

A FIFA statement said that although the Nigerians were now fully prepared for the tournament, cases of cholera and meningitis — both serious infectious diseases — had been reported at two of the four competition venues.

CANTONA VICTIM TARGETED BY FANS

A group of hard-core Manchester United fans are targeting Matthew Simmons, the Crystal Palace fan involved in a brawl with Eric Cantona two weeks ago, according to Wednesday's London Evening Standard newspaper there.

Simmons who lives in South London, said he's been hounded out of his home by a group of fans who have launched a vicious campaign against him.

The 20-year-old, who has a criminal record for a robbery in which he hit a garage attendant on

the head with a spanner, claims he is so terrified he's moved in with a friend.

Simmons also claims he has received death threats and been spat on in the street.

"I am very frightened. People have been calling all times of the day and night saying they will get me," Simmons said. "It is a disgrace. People seem to think I am the bad one out of all this."

Pamphlets have also been distributed outside Old Trafford giving Simmons' address, national insurance number and passport number. There are also t-shirts on sale outside the ground with a picture of Simmons superimposed with the Ghostbusters' symbol and a caption reading "Thug warning". His address is written on the back of the shirt.

MAGIC MILAN CLAIM SUPER CUP

AC Milan put aside its off-pitch problems with a 2-0 win over Arsenal to win the European Super Cup for the third time.

The first leg at Highbury had ended in a goalless draw.

Croatian midfielder Zvonimir Boban and veteran Italian striker Daniele Massaro claimed well-taken goals in each half as Milan triumphed in its first match in Italy since the fatal stabbing of a fan on January 29.

Genoa fan Vincenzo Spagnolo died of knife wounds sustained in clashes before his team's match with Milan last month. Simone

Barbaglia, an 18-year-old Milan supporter, has been charged with murder over the killing.

The Milan fans in a disappointing crowd of under 24,000 at the San Siro remained silent throughout the first half last Wednesday as a mark of respect for Spagnolo. English premier league Arsenal enjoyed the backing of some 3,000 supporters but there were no reports of any trouble before or during the game.

"We played very well tonight and I'm pleased for the supporters here who behaved excellently. Let's hope it can be like this every week," said Milan coach Fabio Capello.

Milan became the first club to win the annual clash between the European champions and the Cup Winners' Cup holders three times.

They previously claimed the 1989 and 1990 editions of the trophy.

SHILTON JOINS WIMBLEDON

Former England goalkeeper Peter Shilton, now 45, joined premier league Wimbledon on a temporary basis over the weekend.

Wimbledon assistant manager Terry Burton confirmed Shilton, capped 125 times, had been signed as cover for Dutch goalkeeper Hans Segers.

Neil Sullivan, the club's second choice goalkeeper, is suspended for next Sunday's FA Cup fifth round visit to Liverpool.

Shilton, who quit as manager of second division Plymouth last month, said he was looking forward to continuing his playing career.

"People may say that I am too old to be making a comeback — but look at George Foreman. He did it and he is a world champion now."

LIEGE CLOSE TO BANKRUPTCY

Belgian club FC Liege said it was \$A10.8 million in debt, had a stadium unfit for public use and was close to bankruptcy.

"We've got a 250 million franc debt and we lose an additional million francs (\$A43,000) every week," said FC Liege director Pierre Delahaye.

"If we wait another two months, it will be too late. It's now or never."

Liege is bottom of the first division. Delahaye said informal merger talks with another Belgian first division club, Seraing, were underway.

THERN WANTS OUT

Sweden captain Jonas Thern is fed up with sitting on AC Roma's substitutes' bench and is keen to sign for Scottish champions Glasgow Rangers, the Swedish news agency TT said last week.

TT quoted Thern as saying: "I've heard a lot of good things

about the club and it would suit me fine to finish my professional career in Scotland."

"The situation in Rome is untenable. I want to play but if I'm not going to be selected I might as well change clubs."

Thern's agent, Vincenzo Morabito, said he would travel to Glasgow next week for talks with the Scottish champions.

BARCELONA THUMPED

Defending champion Barcelona plunged to a humiliating 5-0 defeat over the weekend against lowly Racing Santander, third from bottom of the Spanish first division.

Last year's European Cup finalist, missing three key men through injury and suspension, collapsed spectacularly in the second half and finished the match with just nine players after Albert Ferrer and goalkeeper Carlos Busquets were sent off.

It ended a miserable week for coach Johan Cruyff who saw his side crash 4-1 at home to Atletico Madrid in the Spanish Cup last Tuesday.

In the absence of the injured Ronald Koeman and Miguel Nadal and suspended Sergi Barjuan, Cruyff opted for Ferrer and Abelardo Fernandez in defence and his patched-up team looked the better side for much of the first half.

All that changed after an error by Ferrer a minute before half-

time allowing Russian Dimitri Radchenko to free Esteban Torres for Racing's opening goal.

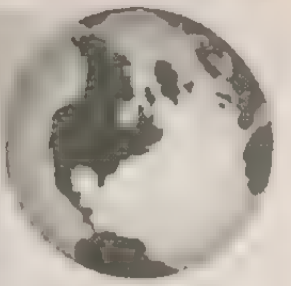
Racing's captain Enrique Setien scored a second from a header in the 51st minute and Barcelona's fortunes went from bad to worse 10 minutes later when Spanish international Ferrer was sent off for a foul on David Billabona.

Barcelona were quickly four down as Jesus Merino in the 68th minute and Radchenko in the 72nd took advantage of their defensive disorganisation.

Racing, who have not won in their last four matches, gleefully added a fifth from the penalty spot through Radchenko in the 88th minute after Busquets had been sent off for fouling the Russian.

Barcelona, in third place after last weekend and trailing leaders Real Madrid by four points.

News From Around The GLOBE



UNITED RESIGNS HUGHES

Mark Hughes has signed a new two-year deal with Manchester United, the soccer club's chairman, Martin Edwards, said.

The announcement brings to an end their long drawn-out negotiations over a new deal.

United had originally refused the 31-year-old Welsh international striker's demands, first for a four-year deal and then for two years, offering him only a 12-month extension on his current contract.

But Edwards said that the decision to ban Eric Cantona for the rest of the season following his attack on a Crystal Palace supporter had led to the club's change of heart.

EURO LEAGUE FOR RANGERS

Glasgow Rangers will be playing in a new-style midweek European League within five years, chairman David Murray told supporters last week.

Murray, speaking in an interview on BBC Scotland, said: "I have never hidden the fact that I believe we'll be operating in a European League by the Year 2000."

"Rangers and Celtic and a couple of other Scottish clubs will be playing a midweek competition with our domestic football on a Saturday."

"It's already starting to happen with the Champions League and I'm sure we will be playing in it and in a reduced Scottish League."

Murray, who has revitalised the Rangers since taking over as chairman six years ago, has seen his club win the Scottish League every year since and is a long-time supporter of the concept of a European League.



Mark Hughes: New two-year deal with Manchester United.

PORTSMOUTH SACK COACH

First Division club Portsmouth has sacked manager Jim Smith, a week after the club was put up for sale at \$A14.69 million.

Smith had been in charge at Fratton Park since May 1991 and led Pompey to a place in the FA Cup semi-finals in 1992 and the first division play-offs a year later.

NIGERIA FORM NEW SQUAD

Nigeria has assembled a fresh youth team in replacement of the one disbanded last week after a woeful showing in the African Youth Championship.

The new 30-player squad includes seven who are currently playing for European clubs.

The seven are members of the Under 17 team which won the championship in that age group in Japan last year.

Nigeria's youth squad have gathered in the northern city of Makurdi to start training.

The team is to be handled by three Nigerian coaches who at the moment handle the senior national team.

UNITED SKIPPER IN TROUBLE

Manchester United captain Paul Ince was questioned but not charged by police last week about an incident on January 25 involving team-mate Eric Cantona, a Metropolitan Police spokesman said.

The spokesman said: "Mr Ince was arrested as he arrived at the police station in connection with allegations of assault. He was interviewed and then bailed to return to the police station at a later date."

ENGLISH FA CUP REVISED FIFTH ROUND DRAW

Wolverhampton	v Leicester
Queen's Park Rangers	v Millwall
Liverpool	v Wimbledon
Watford	v Crystal Palace
Tottenham Hotspur	v Southampton
Everton	v Norwich
Newcastle	v Manchester C.
Manchester United	v Leeds

Matches to be played on weekend of February 18-19

CANTONA ANNOYS POLICE

French striker Eric Cantona was accused of a blatant disregard for an important inquiry when he failed to appear last Wednesday for an interview with police over a two-footed attack on a fan.

But Cantona's solicitor Maurice Watkins claimed police had been fully aware that Cantona was on holiday in Antigua and no appointment had been arranged.

Police said they had expressed annoyance to Cantona's lawyers about "a blatant disregard for an important police inquiry".

The spokesman said police had no powers to order Cantona to return to Britain but stressed that he would be interviewed "as soon as he does".

ITALIAN 'ULTRAS' CANCEL AWAY TRIPS

Milan's hardline fans, the so-called 'ultras', said last week they would not organise trips to away matches for the rest of the season.

The move follows the fatal stabbing of a Genoa fan before a league match against the European champions on January 29. A Milan supporter has been charged with murder over the killing.

"A lot of things have changed for the 'ultras' after what happened in Genoa. The spirit, desire and enthusiasm are no longer what they were," the hardliners said in a statement before the European Super Cup second leg against Arsenal.



Paul Ince: In trouble with the law.

Genoa fans have also decided to suspend away trips for the next two months.

AMATEUR PLAYER SHOT DEAD

A French youth was arrested last Thursday on suspicion of shooting a rival fan at an amateur soccer match in a Paris suburb, French television said.

Abdellakim El-Kihel, 18, is said to have shot Douadi Atou, 22, during a clash between supporters of the Parisian Berbers and Drancy on January 26 in Drancy, north of Paris. Atou died in hospital the following Tuesday.

Two other fans also involved in the clash were placed under investigation for complicity in murder, French television added.

All the 6,800 amateur matches scheduled for last weekend in the Paris area were called off and a minute's silence was observed in the other 40,000 matches to be played in France.

DRUG BAN FOR GERMAN STAR

German chiefs last week gave former international striker Roland Wohlfarth a two-month ban for taking a banned drug in an effort to lose weight.

It is the first doping case in the history of the Bundesliga.

KLINSMANN READY FOR TOP JOB

Tottenham striker Juergen Klinsmann is ready to become captain of Germany's national team following a long-term injury to Lothar Matthaus.

Klinsmann and defender Juergen Kohler are the main candidates to take over from Matthaus, who will miss many of Germany's qualifying games for the 1996 European championships because of a ruptured Achilles tendon.

Coach Berti Vogts will announce his decision just before the country's friendly against Spain later this month.

Although Kohler has three more caps than Klinsmann (70), the Tottenham forward's diplomacy and fluency in foreign languages will count in his favour, especially since the European finals are to be held in England.

"I'm in touch with Berti Vogts and he said he will make his decision before the Spanish game," Klinsmann told reporters on a visit to Munich. "Whoever it is, every player would be delighted to be captain of the national team."

Matthaus's international future has been jeopardised by his serious injury and there are doubts the 33-year-old Bayern libero may ever return to the national side again.

UEFA PLACES HANDED OUT

Italy, France, Germany and England have each been allotted four places in next season's UEFA Cup.

Italy, France and Germany earned the berths based on a points

system that grades each country's clubs performances in various European soccer competitions over the last five years.

England was awarded three berths based on the points system, but gained an extra spot because it was in the top three of UEFA's "fair play" ranking, which rewards "sportsmanlike conduct of players, officials and spectators."

Norway and Luxembourg were the other two countries that gained a "fair play" berth.

CAMEROON CLINCH FINAL

Cameroon ended Burundi's giant-killing run by beating it 4-0 in the final of the African youth championship last week.

The more experienced Cameroon team, the Junior Lions, was in command almost from the start, allowing few openings for Burundi, which had surprisingly qualified by beating Mali 3-0 in the semi-final.

WISE CASE CONTINUES...

England international Dennis Wise was found guilty of common assault and criminal damage last week and was warned he could go to jail.

Magistrate Geoffrey Breen deferred sentence until March 13 but warned Wise "you are facing a serious risk of custody". The Chelsea midfielder had pleaded not guilty to assaulting a taxi driver.

Wise was charged with attacking taxi driver Gerald Graham outside a night club owned by England manager Terry Venables in October and causing criminal damage of \$A2,000 by smashing the partition window of the taxi.

In court last week, Wise claimed Graham had refused to drive him and his girlfriend to another bar in East London.

The taxi had driven off knocking over his girlfriend.

He told the court how he punched the glass partition, smashing it with his fist and swore at the driver to stop.

He was pulled out of the cab by a police officer who then handcuffed him in the back of the taxi, Wise told the court.

Under cross examination he denied being aggressive but admitted losing his temper and being angry.

THE WORLD'S BEST REFEREE 1994

1. Sándor Puhl (Hungary).....	93
2. Joel Quiniou (France).....	51
3. Peter Mikkelsen (Denmark).....	46
4. José Joaquín Torres Cadena (Colombia).....	31
5. Pier-Luigi Palrotto (Italy).....	14
6. Philip Don (England).....	13
7. Bernd Heynemann (Germany).....	9
Kim Milton Nielsen (Denmark).....	9
9. Ion Craciunescu (Romania).....	8
10. Mario van der Endo (Holland).....	7
Renato Marsiglia (Brazil).....	7
12. Bo Karlsson (Sweden).....	6
Antonio Maruffo Mendoza (Mexico).....	6



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHART —



RESULTS

SAO PAULO CHAMPIONSHIP

— February 9 —

Aracatuba.....1	Novorizontino.....0
Ferroviaria.....1	Corinthians.....1
Palmeiras.....5	Guarani.....0
Ponte Preta.....0	XV de Piracicaba.....6
Rio Branco.....2	Bragantino.....0
Santos.....3	America/Rio Preto.....0

TABLE

XV de Piracicaba	3	3	0	0	9	1	9
Rio Branco	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
Sao Paulo	2	2	0	0	7	1	6
Santos	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Guarani	3	2	0	1	4	5	8
Portuguesa	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
America	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
Palmeiras	3	1	0	2	6	3	3
Uniao Sao Joao	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Bragantino	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
Aracatuba	3	1	0	2	1	4	3
Ponte Preta	3	1	0	2	3	10	3
Corinthians	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Novorizontino	3	0	1	2	3	7	1
Ferroviaria	3	0	1	2	1	6	1
Juventus	2	0	0	2	1	3	0

Note: top seven teams plus the winners of the second division qualify for the second stage

RIO DE JANEIRO

Group A

Itaperuna.....1	America/Rio de Jan.1
Vasco da Gama.....6	Olaria.....1

Group B

Americano.....1	Bangu.....1
Fluminense.....1	Volta Redonda.....0
Madureira.....2	Friburgense.....1

Group A

Vasco da Gama	4	3	1	0	8	1	10
Entrerriense	3	2	1	0	3	1	7
America	4	1	2	1	8	5	5
Botafoogo	3	1	2	0	7	4	5
Barreira	3	1	1	1	6	7	4
Itaperuna	4	1	1	2	3	4	4
Sao Cristovao	3	0	1	2	4	6	1
Olaria	4	0	1	3	4	15	1

Group B

Madureira	4	3	1	0	5	2	10
Fluminense	4	3	0	1	6	2	9
Flamengo	3	2	1	0	9	1	7
Bangu	4	2	1	1	8	4	7
Volta Redonda	4	2	0	2	3	4	6
Americano	4	1	1	2	3	6	4
Campo Grande	3	0	0	3	2	8	0
Friburgense	4	0	0	4	2	11	0

SOUTH AMERICAN LIBERTADCORES CUP

FIRST ROUND

— February 9 —

Group Five

In La Paz: Bolivar (Bolivia) 2 Wilstermann (Bolivia) 0 (halftime 2-0)
Scorers: Claudio Mir (36th minute), Juan Carlos Rios (43rd)
Attendance: 30,000
In Lima: Sporting Cristal (Peru) 3 Alianza (Peru) 0 (2-0)
Scorers: Roberto Palacios (42nd), Julinho (45th), Flavio Maestri (50th)
Attendance: 41,689

TABLE

Sporting Cristal	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Bolivar	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Wilstermann	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Alianza	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

Next match: Feb 14 - Wilstermann v Alianza

Note: top three teams in each first round group qualify for the second round. Holders Velez Sarstfield (Argentina) have bye to the second round.

VIOLENCE PROMPTS PELE PLEA

Pele, the world's most famous footballer, has appealed to soccer fans all over the world to stop the senseless slaughter.

"Football, the people's game, must be protected," he told journalists on a trip to promote the 1998 World Cup finals in France.

"I know fans identify very

strongly with their clubs but they must remember football is a celebration. We go to matches to enjoy ourselves. I'd say to the fans, please, please remember this," he urged.

In the past three weeks two fans have been killed, one in Italy and one in France. The murder in Italy, involving a supporter of the

world's most famous club, AC Milan, sparked off street riots. The killing in France occurred at an amateur game.

Pele also insisted that French star Eric Cantona be banned from all football for attacking a fan at Manchester United's English league match at Crystal Palace last month.

"He's human and everybody can make mistakes but a player must set an example," he said.

So far Manchester United has suspended the player for the rest of the season.

Pele applauded Italy's decision to suspend all sporting fixtures last weekend after a Genoa fan was stabbed to death by an AC Milan

supporter the previous weekend.

"It allowed everybody to take stock of the situation, to come to their senses," he said.

"But you must remember that when you consider the number of games played every day throughout the world there is relatively little violence," he added.

Pele suggested that one way to help combat the threat of violence would be for clubs and national federations to make matches a family occasion.

"They should offer free



Pele: Appealing for Peace.

tickets to wives and children. Fans are better behaved in a family environment" he said.

More entertaining football would also help said Pele, who added that he had asked International Football Federation (FIFA) president Joao Havelange last week to consider abolishing the defensive wall and throw-in.

"We should allow players to throw the ball in or drop-kick it," he said. "And we must do away with the defensive wall. When a

forward dribbles two or three defenders and is fouled by the fourth it's not fair he then has to try to shoot past a wall of 10 defenders," he said.

"He should be allowed a direct free-kick with everybody behind the wall," he added.

Ironically, it was Pele and his Brazilian right winger Garrincha who perfected the banana free-kick in the late 50s to beat the defensive wall.



Eric Cantona: "Should be banned everywhere" - Pele.

Spiteful Diego will return

Argentine star Diego Maradona said last week he intended returning to soccer as a player once he had served his 15-month suspension for failing a drug test at last year's World Cup finals.

Maradona, currently coach at Racing Club, told television reporters his comeback ambitions were driven by a desire to prove himself to "all the bastards" who were against him.

Asked about resuming his playing career, Maradona, 34, said: "I think so — because of all the bastards who fill me with hate, but also give me the strength to carry on."

Maradona's outburst followed five months during which he has coached two clubs, although with little success.

Last October, after FIFA, world soccer's ruling body, had relaxed its ban on him, Maradona was



Diego Maradona: Ready to silence his critics by making a comeback.

permitted to take a coaching post with struggling Deportivo Mandiyu.

He lasted only two

months, guiding Mandiyu to just one win in 12 matches.

He then took over in January as coach at

Racing, a once-great club seeking to revive its fortunes 28 years after its last Argentine championship.

Racing has drawn one match and lost the other in the two games under his charge.

ITALY

SERIE A STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Juventus	19	13	3	3	32	20	42
Parma	19	11	6	2	31	15	39
Roma	19	9	7	3	26	13	34
Sampdoria	19	8	7	4	32	17	31
Lazio	19	9	4	6	37	24	31
Fiorentina	19	8	6	5	34	26	30
AC Milan	18	7	8	3	21	15	29
Cagliari	19	6	8	5	19	19	26
Torino	19	7	5	7	19	20	26
Bari	19	8	2	9	22	27	26
Internazionale	19	6	6	7	19	16	24
Foggia	19	6	6	7	20	25	24
Napoli	19	5	9	5	24	29	24
Cremonese	19	5	3	11	16	23	18
Genoa	18	4	5	9	20	29	17
Padova	19	5	2	12	18	41	17
Reggiana	19	3	3	13	14	26	12
Brescia	19	2	6	11	10	27	12

Players unite in Anti-Violence gesture



Attilio Lombardo: Scored a last-minute winner for Sampdoria.

Trying to discourage fan violence and to honour the memory of a slain fan, Italian first-division soccer players took to the field over the weekend in their opponents' jerseys and started the games five minutes late.

The captains of each club read prepared messages before the matches.

"We have exchanged jerseys and entered the field like this to remind everyone that soccer should unite and not divide," said each of the home team captains.

The visitors' captains read a statement saying, "We have stopped to reflect and not forget. Now we must make a new commitment: we, the protagonists on the field, and you, the protagonists in the stands."

The players then re-exchanged jerseys on the field.

There were no reported fan clashes at any stadium as the league resumed action after a week off.

Italian authorities cancelled last Sunday's league matches and other professional sports events in response to the January 29 stabbing death of a fan before the Genoa-AC Milan game. A 18-year-old Milan supporter was charged over the slaying, which touched off demands to crack down on violent fans.

SERIE A - ROUND 19

BARI.....0 JUVE 2

BARI: Fontana, Gautieri, Amoroso, Bigica, Mangone, Rici, Gerson (Montanari 46), Pedone, Toverieri, Manighetti (Annoni 46), Guerrero. JUVENTUS: Peruzzi, Ferrara, Jarni, Carrera, Porrini, Paulo Sousa, Marocchi (Torricelli 60), A. Conte, Vialli, Del Piero (Tacchinardi 75), Ravanelli. SCORERS: Del Piero 40, Ferrara.

BRESCIA.....1 FOGGIA.....0

BRESCIA: Ballotta, Adani, Marangon, Corini, Baronechelli, Battistini, Schenardi, Sabau, Cadete (Nappi 46), Lupu (galo 46), Neri. FOGGIA: Brunner, Padalino, Bucaro, Di Bari, Sciacca, Caimi, Bresciani, Bressan, Cappellini, De Vincenzo, Mandelli. SCORER: Battistini 90.

TORINO.....2 LAZIO.....0

TORINO: Pastine, Falcone, Angiola, Sogliano (Lorenzini 31), Pellegrini, Maltagliati, Marcao (Sinigaglia 65), Pressotto, Silenzi, Pelè, Cristallini. LAZIO: Marchegiani, Negro, Favalli, Di Matteo, Chamot, Cravero, Casiraghi, Fuser, Boksic, Winter (Venturin 80), Signori. SCORERS: Pelè 52, Angiola 74.

PARMA.....1 PADOVA.....0

PARMA: Bucci, Benarrivo, Di Chiara, Minotti, Apolloni, Couto (Branca 56), Sensi, Pin, Crippa, Zola, Asprilla. PADOVA: Bonaiuti, Balleri, Gabrieli, Franceschetti, Cuicchi, Lalas, Kreek, Zorato, Vlaovic, Longhi, Maniero (Galdens 80). SCORER: Zola 71.

ROMA.....3 INTER.....1

ROMA: Cervone, Aldair, Lanna, Statuto, Annoni, Carboni, Cappioli,

Thern, Balbo, Giannini, Totti.

INTER: Pagliuca, M. Paganin, Fontolan, Seno, Festa, Bergomi, A. Paganin (Orlandini 51), Jonk, Delvecchio (Pancev 65), Bergkamp, Berti. SCORERS: Balbo 4, 30 and 71, Seno 14.

FIorentina.....3 GENOA.....1

FIorentina: Toldo, Carnasciali, Pioli, Cois, Marcio Santos, Malusci, A. Carbone, Di Mauro (Tedesco 56), Batistuta, Rui Costa, Flachi. GENOA: Micillo, Torrente, Caricola, Manicone, Galante, Francesconi, Ruotolo, Bortolazzi, Onorati, Skuhravy, Van't Schip (Miura 70). SCORERS: Batistuta 24 and 57, Rui Costa 26, Skuhravy 36.

MILAN.....1 CAGLIARI.....1

MILAN: S. Rossi, panucci, Maldini, Albertini (Di Canio 46), Costacurta, Baresi, Donadoni, Desailly, Massaro, Boban, Simone. CAGLIARI: Fiori, Pancaro, Pusceddu, Villa, Napoli, Firicano, Bisoli, Berretta, Dely Valdes, Oliveira, Muzzi (Allegri 77). SCORERS: Muzzi 14, Panucci 52.

SAMP.....2 REGGIANA..1

SAMPDORIA: Zenga, Mannini, Ferri (Serena 7), Gullit, Vierchowod, Mihajlovic, Lombardo, Jugovic, Maspero, Mancini, Evani. REGGIANA: Antonioli, Zanutta, Sgarbossa, De Napoli, Greggucci, De Agostini, Simutenkov, Oliseh, Padovano, Brambilla, Esposito. SCORERS: Padovano 31, De Agostini 48, Lombardo 89.

GOALSCORERS

SERIE A

17 - Gabriel Batistuta (Fiorentina)
13 - Abel Balbo (Roma), Sandro Toverieri (Bari)
11 - Giuseppe Signori (Lazio)
10 - Gianluca Vialli (Juventus), Gianfranco Zola (Parma)
7 - Alen Boksic (Lazio), Alessandro Del Piero and Fabrizio Ravanelli (both Juventus)

SERIE B - ROUND 21

Ascoli.....0 Atalanta.....1 Lecce.....1 Ancona.....2
Cesena.....4 F. Andria.....0 Palermo.....1 Verona.....0
Chievo V.....0 Udinese.....1 Perugia.....1 Lucchese.....1
Como.....1 Venezia.....3 Pescara.....3 Acireale.....0
Cosenza.....1 Piacenza.....1 Salernitana.....0 Vicenza.....1

SERIE B STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Piacenza	21	9	11	1	28	13	38
Udinese	21	9	9	3	34	19	36
Ancona	21	9	6	6	32	26	33
Vicenza	21	6	13	2	14	9	31
Cesena	21	7	9	5	25	17	30
Perugia	21	6	12	3	16	12	30
F. Andria	21	7	9	5	22	21	30
Verona	21	6	11	4	21	18	29
Venezia	21	8	5	8	23	21	29
Atalanta	21	6	11	4	18	18	29
Palermo	21	6	10	5	20	11	28
Salernitana	21	7	7	7	29	24	28
Lucchese	21	6	10	5	29	26	28
Pescara	21	6	6	9	22	31	24
Acireale	21	5	7	9	11	23	
Cosenza	21	6	11	4	20	19	
Chievo V.	21	4	8	9	18	21	20
Ascoli	21	3	8	10	13	25	17
Como	21	3	7	11	9	32	16
Lecce	21	2	8	11	14	32	14



Gabriel Batistuta and Abel Balbo: Both strikers scored for their clubs on Sunday.



Del Piero: Opens the scoring for Juventus.

Test Your Knowledge

ANSWERS

- (1) Oscar Cordova, Herman Gaviria
- (2) Joe Baeck
- (3) Herman Lario Gomez
- (4) Mehmet Durakovic
- (5) South Melbourne
- (6) John Markovski
- (7) Robbie Hooker
- (8) John Aloisi
- (9) Kris Trenggaski
- (10) Bobby Mims
- (11) Johnny Warren

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS

DOWNUNDER



Have to do a little bit of "housework" this week and send out some thankyou's and welcome back's. Firstly to Steve Andrews who lives in Germany and sent over a whole heap of fanzines from the UK. Much appreciated mate and I hope the return items were to your liking?

To Tranmere Rovers who have once again been on the ball by sending over the latest price list. All you Rovers fans can obtain this from the usual address.

To Malcolm Wyatt who has answered my letter from five months ago but had a really good excuse for it, well done buddy. To Francis McDonald, a great lad who may be back on our shores in the very near future, for a wonderful "home a go" letter about Arsenal going out of the Cup to Millwall. Had he waited for just a day or two more he could have told me about Man Utd's new "fifth kit" — all white with a black belt! Looking forward to your return Fran but be lucky until then mate.

To "Big" Bill Chapman I have to say a big thanks for the copies of WSC and welcome back from his arduous trek to the UK. After salivating for months over which games he would be able to take in, most of them got called off because of the weather. Do you think someone's trying to tell you something Bill?

A very warm welcome to my dear old Mum and Dad who have managed to make it down here to visit the family once more. If I can ever get them out of the backyard and tear them away from sunbathing and the little's, I'm sure they'll quite

QUICK

ONE-TWO'S

WITH
MICKY BROCK
of the
UK Soccer
Supporters
Downunder

NOT FOR PUBLIC VIEWING

PO BOX 56, KINGSWAY WEST,
NSW 2208. Tel: (02) 554-3888

like the rest of Australia?

Now that's taken care of, let's get on with it.

◆◆◆
The Hanging Sheep is a fanzine of Leeds Utd and its editor Chris Stringer has put out a request to all Leeds fans in Australia. Chris would like you all to send over stories, anecdotes and thoughts about life here.

Mention of your last match seen, attended, great wins and defeats would also be appreciated.

The address to write to is: Chris Stringer, The Hanging Sheep, 2 Wayside Crescent, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks BD2-2JY. Incidentally, the fanzine has risen in price to 70p now but is still marvellous value. Come on you "Peacocks", get writing!

◆◆◆
We have a brand new competition for

you this week. Mark at Eurokit — sellers of OFFICIAL merchandise — has put forward two England T-shirts for you to win, one in black and the other in white. These are valued at \$34.50 each and are made by KICK in association with the FA. Anyone who purchases an item from our catalogue between now and the 17th of March 1995 will be eligible to win.

Anyone sending in for a catalogue of what we can offer will also be in the running. Your name goes into the hat with each item purchased — EG: "Supporters Guides to" series consists of four books and if you take advantage of our special deal, your name is entered into the draw four times. Buy any shirt, baseball cap etc, your name is entered that many times.

Easy, so send in for a

catalogue today, you will not regret it. (The T-shirts by the way are of the highest quality material, are an official product in conjunction with the FA and look fantastic).

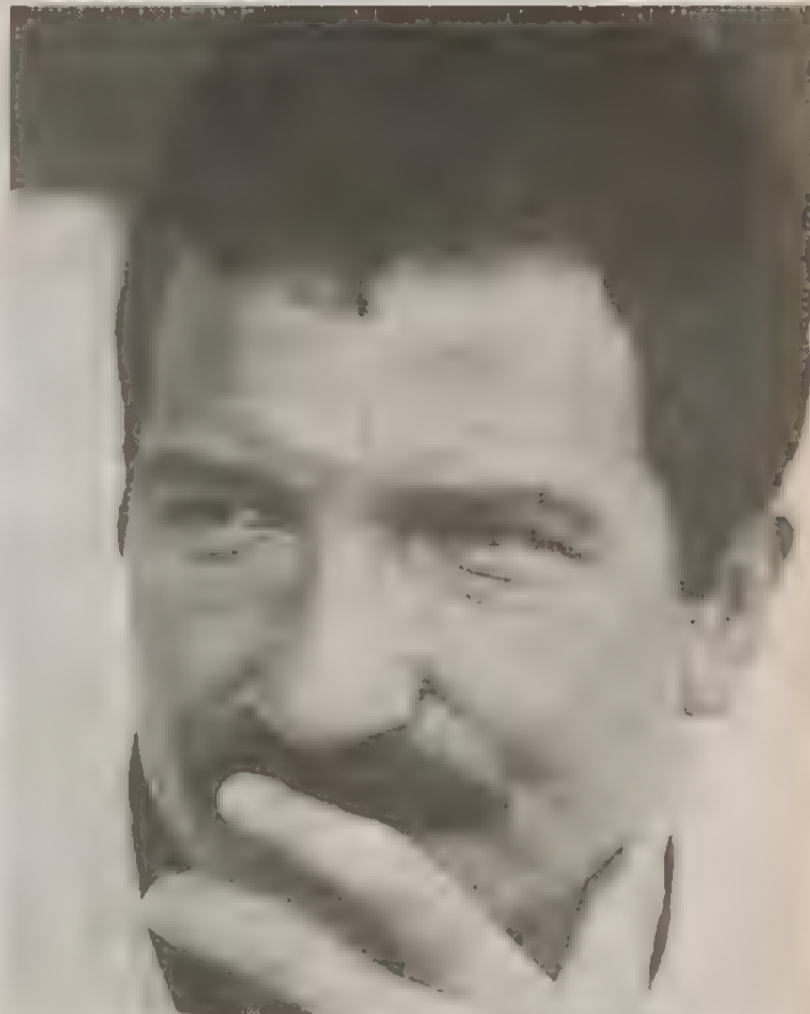
Our thanks to Mark once more for putting up the prizes, much appreciated. Some new items to add to the list are T-shirts: Coventry City, Notts County, Man Utd limited edition (Cantona & Ince \$37.50 each and made by Umbro), Man Utd "Double" and Man Utd "Fred the Red, crackshot" T-shirts.

All priced at \$34.50 unless stated otherwise. Also just in, Brazil "limited edition" by Umbro at \$37.95. There are not many of each item left so be quick if you want one and they are all one size.

Anyone buying one of these would automatically go into the draw for one of the English T-shirts to be drawn on Saturday 18th March 1995. The choice is yours so what are you waiting for?

◆◆◆
Stuart — now in the UK for six months or more — and I met up with Tony Scowcroft recently at Sydney United. He is the editor of the Plymouth Argyle fanzine RUB OF THE GREENS and an active member of the P.A.S.T.A. organisation (Plymouth Argyle Supporters Trapped in Avon).

Bearded and worldly wise, we sat during the game on the concrete steps and spoke of all things football. Peter Shilton was a favoured topic as we sipped our beers — a nostalgic trip back to the good old days in the UK when you could actually have a beer on the terraces — and watched the match unfold.



Graeme Souness: Will be in Sydney later in the month to conduct coaching clinics.

Everyone agreed that Utd played quite well but their finishing was woeful if truth be told. Tony was surprised by the standard of Australian soccer for many reasons and spoke quite eloquently about it and of course the scene back across the water.

It transpires that he is a frequent visitor over here to see his sister and brother-in-law who settled in the land of sunshine some five years ago.

It was a very pleasant way to spend a couple of hours and as for the ROTG, I would urge anybody to grab a copy as it's really a very good read. He is still not impressed that we sponsor Trevor Morgan at Exeter City though...can't think why?

◆◆◆
NIKE Australia will be bringing out a brand new range of products in Australia in the coming months. Vastly improved is their soccer merchandise and being the new manufacturer of the Italian national side team kit, be assured that they will play in a bit more style in the years ahead.

I was lucky enough to have a sneak preview of some of the items on Friday — especially the new Arsenal range — and was most impressed with what I saw. It's good that NIKE are finally getting involved with

the game more and it's to be reckoned that many more teams will be changing their manufacturers in the years ahead.

Excellent detail with a bit of the historical side of things taken into account. The UKSSD wish them all the success for the future and watch this space for more details soon.

◆◆◆
The "Mini Leaguers" (or little lads) that I told you about last week are certainly proving to be most popular indeed. This is not surprising and no-one will be disappointed when receiving their personalised player/s.

For more information about these and our extensive range of "officially licenced products" not available in Australia, just write in for one of our catalogues. When you match our prices against those of others, you will not go anywhere else for your purchases.

All are delivered to you in 28 days or less. The place to write to is: P.O. Box 56, Kingsway West, NSW 2208. We can accept Fax requests for catalogues but not for orders I'm afraid.

However, when ordering any item for us you can pay by cheque (four working days clearance) money order from the Post Office or by cash.

We cannot accept credit cards I'm afraid. Check out our prices because you have absolutely nothing to lose. Anyone wishing to see how good these figures are can attend the Arsenal meeting on February 18 — see Club Diary — or any of the UKSSD organised events or some supporters club events throughout the Sydney area.

GRAEME SOUNESS COACHING CLINIC

Saturday 25th February 10.00am to 10.50am

Introduction

Coaches & Managers only

11.00am to 11.50am

Practical demonstration (with x 14-15 year old players)

Coaches & Managers only

12.00am to 12.50am

Practical Demonstration

Coaches Managers and All Players

1.00pm to 1.30pm

Practical Demonstration

Coaches Managers and All Players

2.00pm to 3.30pm

Summary of the day including Questions & Answers session

Coaches Managers and All Players

Colo High School, North Richmond.

Contract Andrew Reichard (045) 885 355

Bus. or (045) 731 016 AH

UK CLUB DIARY

ARSENAL NSW

General meeting of the NSW Branch of the Australian Arsenal Supporters Club will be held at the Greenwood Tree Hotel, 182 Oxford Street, Paddington on Saturday February 18th 1995.

Kick-off is at 4pm and the latest Arsenal videos will be shown and the chat will surround the Gunners mainly but football in general is the order of the day.

Afterwards the Arsenal boys have been challenged to a "Darts & Pool" match by Sunderland and Manchester Utd and Chelsea supporters clubs may also join in. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a few hours watching and talking football with those in the know.

Contact Micky on (02) 554 3888 or Martin on (02) 331 1563 for more details.

AN EVENING WITH GRAEME SOUNESS

In co-operation with the Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club (Sydney Branch), we are pleased to announce the above will take place on Friday February 24th 1995 at the Coogee/Randwick RSL Club on the corner of Carr and Byron Streets, Coogee.

Kick-off is 7.30pm and tickets are priced at just \$15 and are available from the club by ringing (02) 665 3875 or from Rangers Stalwart Russell Chapman on (02) 349 1813. This is a night where you can watch highlights and listen to anecdotes from his career.

You will even get the chance to meet the man and have your photo taken with him after the question and answer time. Everyone is welcome as always with the supporters club events.

UKSSD

(Melbourne Division)

The UKSSD is pleased to announce the formation of the Victorian Branch of the movement and its inaugural meeting which will take place at Waverley City Soccer Club on Tuesday February 21st at 7.30pm.

For more information about the events taking place please call our Victorian Representatives Peter Hart on (03) 484 1797 or Norm Wicks on (03) 801 2312.

Our very best to the Peter and Norm for their efforts in organising the Branch.

Well done lads but the rest is up to the supporters. Get behind the guys!

Soccer

On the Phone

UK SCORES FROM 6.30 AM SUNDAYS

00555 2200

00555 0022
Australian Scores
InPho-25c/21 secs (premium)

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS DOWNUNDER

FANZINE CORNER

BY MICKY BROCK

CAN I BRING MY DOG? (Dundee United)

A very original title for a most innovative fanzine.

Started by a small group of friends, it has grown consistently if not spectacularly.

It's of the photocopy style, in the A5 format but with smaller print, packs a load into each edition.

Like some of the other 'zines doing the rounds, it has its own "review" section which can cover books, videos, merchandise etc.

Under the title of "What's going on?" is a phrase that I like so much I may even steal from time to time. It goes: "Over the past couple of months everyone has had an opinion about the current situation at tannadice.

Journalists who have along past their sense-by dates etc. Those three little words sum up a

lot that's wrong with the press and is often referred to as the "gutter press".

Nice one Andy. Full of humour, one mention goes something like this — At a reserve game recently this timeless conversation took place. Who's the new boy?

Dunno but he must be a Brazilian because he's only got one name! What is it? TRIALIST comes the reply!

There seems to be a lot of speculation on the future of Ivan Golac staying at Tannadice until or after the seasons end and a very good article about the possible replacements includes such notables as Paul Sturrock, Davie Dodds, Maurice Malpas and even Gordon Strachan. Very good article and well written — as is most of the publication.

Excellent segments on "Away days" and brief club histories of teams they will be meeting this season along with their record against them in all competitions. A lot of hard work has to go into preparing a small item such as this believe me. All in all this is a

very good publication and as I've been informed of why this is called CAN I BRING MY DOG? I've decided to share it with you all.

In December of 1993 it was decided that club funds needed a "wee boost" and the suggestion for a newsletter arose. It was decided that a "tester" would be produced for the away game at Brondby and as it was generally well received, it was felt that we should repeat this and write another one for the home game.

By now, the newsletter had acquired a name — CAN I BRING MY DOG? — and sold really well which surprised us as the only place it could be bought from was me! (Editor A Boyd).

To cut a long story short, the title came courtesy of BFG on the way back from Brondby. For those of you who do not know BFG (which is likely to be all of us down here, put at least he is now famous in two hemispheres) I can only describe him as probably the most colourful character you are ever likely to meet and once met, never



Ivan Golac: How much longer will he be with Dundee club?

forgotten! On the way back, John started to take names for the trip to Parkhead on the Saturday — this was Wednesday by now of course — when up pops BFG and says "Where's that?"

Glasgow came the reply to which was asked "Can I bring a friend?" The more the merrier

was quoted by John. Then BFG came out with the immortal line: "Can she bring her dog?" The question was met by the whole ensemble rolling in the aisles hysterically and after that, there was only one possible name for the fanzine and so we present to you — CAN I BRING MY

DOG? Until then it was going to be called after a Eurhythms song called "Right by your side" due to the lyrics leading up to the title as it goes: "coz when the depression starts to win, I'll always be..." This to me sums up the fanzine, the warmth and general good humour it contains and likeable bunch of rogues who appear to pen this madcap and irreverent nonsense.

Don't be put off by this line as it also contains all the news on Dundee United and a lot of history too but it's all done with a friendly outgoing style.

Available from: Andy Boyd, 3 the Aspens, Dundee, Scotland DD4-0XJ. Priced at just 70p per copy plus post or just 8 pounds for 4 issues, it represents great value.

All cheques/money orders should be in Sterling and made payable to A Boyd please.

Also a stern supporter of the "Anti-racist Campaign" and movement — as we all are — it offers an all around look at life involving one of the so called "smaller" Scottish clubs.

It's a joy to read and once you have done, you'll see real value for money.

FANZINE LISTING

ABERDEEN PROGRAMME REVIEW: Kevin Stirling, 46 Summerfield Terrace, Aberdeen, Scotland AB2-1JD. 11:00 for 6 bi-monthly issues inc postage.

ACCRINGTON STANLEY: THE BARBERS POLE, Ian Simpson, 139 Stanley St, Accrington BB5-6QD. 1.00 plus P+P.

AIRDRIE: ONLY THE LONELY, J Milton, 6 Staffa drive, Airdrie ML6-8NG. 6.00 for three issues inc Airpost.

CHOSMONEY ORDERS T J MILTON PLEASE, ARSENAL: GUNFLASH, Mick Coppock, 154 St Thomas Rd, London N4-2QP. 22:00 per season. THE ARSENAL REPORTS, Dave Bismire, 237 Wendover Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21-9PB. Cost: 2.00 per season (1 issue). UP THE ARSE, P.O. Box 3252, London NW1-0NL. 50p.

THE GOONER, BCM Box 7499, London WC1N-3XX. 20:00 for 8 issues inc Airmail post.

ASTON VILLA: VILLA BUGLE, Alex Rossen, P.O. Box 3085, Erdington, Birmingham B23-7RF. 1.00.

BARROW AFC: GIVE 'EM BEANS: 9E Brig St, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs LA14-2RD. 60p plus P+P.

BERWICK RANGERS: FROM THE GROVE TO THE HARROW, Colin Beveridge, 5 Valley View, Tweedmouth, Berwick TD15-2ED. 1.00 (not available until June 95 due to work commitments).

BILLINGHAM SYNTHONIA: JOURNEY TO THE UNKNOWN, Paul Smith, 40 Wharfedale Ave, Billingham, Cleveland TS23-1NL. 45P.

BIRMINGHAM CITY: THE LAD DONE BRILLIANT, THE HEATHEN both from Adrian Brown, 90J St Georges Dr, Pimlico, London SW1V-4BZ. 10:00 per 5 issues each plus news cuttings about blues.

BLACKBURN ROVERS: LOADSAMONEY, Paul Loftus 44 Tiverton Rd, Blackburn, Lancs BB2-4NR. 1.00 P+P.

BOLTON WANDERERS: COME ON FEEL THE WANDERERS, Simon Jones, P.O. Box 36, Bolton, Lancs BL2-1NR. 1.00 Plus A4 size self addressed envelope please.

BRADFORD CITY: CITY GENT, John Watmough, 46 Ainsley Rd, Wetherby LS22-4QS. 1.00.

BRAY WANDERERS: NO WAY REFEREE, Niall McGuick, C/o 31 Hazel Rd, Donnycarmey, Dublin 9. 50p Irish.

BRISTOL CITY: ONE TEAM IN BRISTOL, Robba Humphries P.O. Box 42, Burnham on sea, Somerset TA8-2YZ. 50p plus SAE.

BURNLEY: MARLONS GLOVES, Jim Park, 5 Vincent Ave, Chilton-cum-Hardy, Manchester M21-9GR. 1.00 plus P+P.

BURY: WHERE WERE YOU AT THE SHAY, Warren Flood, 19 Downham Cr, Prestwich, Manchester M25-0EH. 50p.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED: THE ABBEY RABBIT, 96 Wharley Hook, Harlow, Essex CM18-7DW. 80P.

CARLISLE UNITED: SO JACK ASHURST, WHERE'S MY SHIRT, Tim Pocock, 79 Harlow Cr, harrogate HG2-0AL. 50p.

THE ADVENTURES OF OLGA THE FOX, David Amison, 24 Welhings Lane, penrith, Cumbria CA11-3PE. 1.00 plus P+P.

THE CUMBERLAND SAUSAGE, Paul Newton, 53 Yewdale Rd, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2-7SN. 50p plus P+P.

WATCHING FROM THE WARWICK, Stephen Weston, 68 Richardson St, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2-6AA. 50p.

CARDIFF CITY: BLUEBIRD JONES, Mike Dread, 352 Southway Hse, Moorlands Est, Brixton, London SW9-6TT. 1.00 Plus AS S.A.E. please.

CELTIC: NOT THE VIEW, P.O. BOX 306, GLASGOW G21-2EA. 8:40 inc Airpost per season.

CHELSEA: COCKNEY REBEL, Ian Macleay, 8 Ravens Ct Gdns, London W6. 35p plus P+P.

CHELTHAM TOWN: THE ROBIN, Mark Herron, 36 Abbeys Mews, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, Glos GL52-4UP. 1.00 per issue plus P+P.

CHESHAM: THE CHESS SET, 10 Mill Close, Chesham, Bucks HP5-1QL. 1.00 plus P+P.

CHESTERFIELD: CROOKED SPIREITE, Craig Thomas, 19 The Hollins, Hollomay, Derby DE4-5BA. 70p.

COLWYN BAY: CLARET & BOOZE, 18 Florrid y Craig, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, Clyed LL29-9HR. 50p.

CRAWLEY TOWN: SCORCHER, Mike Pickett, 3 Doubledays, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15-0HT. Now 50p + ROY OF THE DROVERS, as above 1st issue 1.00 containing 11 episodes.

DARLINGTON: MISSION IMPOSSIBLE, Steve Raina, 8 Bromley Parade, Bowesfield Lane, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19-3JG. 50p plus P+P.

DERBY COUNTY: C STANDER, Nick Wheat, 56 Main Rd, Holmesfield, Nr Sheffield S18-5WT. 15.00 per season inc Airmail.

DOVER ATH.: TALES FROM THE RIVER END, Chris Collins, 16 Pardoners Way, Dover, Kent CT16-2DB. 50p.

DUNDEE: EH, MIND O' GILLIE, Rob Crompton, P.O. Box 110, Dundee, Tayside. 50p plus S.A.E.

DUNDEE UNITED: CAN I BRING MY DOG, A Boyd, 3 the Aspens, Dundee, DD4-0XJ. 70p plus P+P.

EAST FIFE: AWAY FROM THE NUMBERS, Michael McCol, 60 Rothes Rd, Glenrothes, Fife KY6-1BN. 80p.

EVERTON: WHEN SKIES ARE GREY, Phil Redmond, P.O. Box 226, Liverpool L69-7LE. 60p.

EXETER CITY: WE'LL SCORE AGAIN, Gary Nelson, 4 Pinbrook Mews, Heath Barton, Exeter EX4-8QW. 50p. THE EXE DIRECTORY, P.O. Box 106, Exeter Devon. 50p inc EXILE: Julian Bauer, 42 Northfields Rd, Acton, London W3-0NW. 10:00 per season.

FALKIRK: RUPERTS ROAR, Paul Hutton, Flat 3, 86 Grove St, Edinburgh EH3-8AP. 1.00.

FAREHAM: MILLERS TALE, BAILEY IS BACK — AGAIN, 16 Martin Ave, Stubbington, Fareham, Hants PO14-2RT. 50p.

FARNBOROUGH TOWN: SIMON'S HAIRCUT, Adrian Creek, 6 Lodon Rd, Farnborough, Hants GU14-9NT. 80p.

FULHAM: THERES ONLY ONE F IN FULHAM, David Lloyd, 128 Green Wytthe Ln, Carshalton, Surrey SM5-2DR. 1.00.

GILLINGHAM: BRIAN MOORES HEAD, Simon Baker, 11 Watts Ave, Rochester, Kent ME1-1RX. 1.00.

GRANTHAM: WINSTON CHURCHILL PICKED AN ARMY, Simon Hall, 3 Chelmsford Dr, Hillside Grange, Grantham, Lincs. 50p.

GRAVESEND & NORTHFLEET: NO IDEA, Nolan Wilde, 29 Hollybush Rd, Gravesend, Kent DA12-5QG. 60p.

GRIMSBY TOWN: SING WHEN WE'RE FISHING, 10 Glen Eddon Rd, St Annas, Lancs FY8-2AU. 60p.

HARTLEPOOL UTD: MONKEY BUSINESS, Paul Mullen, 12 Swanage Cr, Hartlepool, Co Durham TS24-9RR. 1.00.

HASTINGS TOWN: GHOST OF UNITED, Simon Stoddard, 93, The Ridge, Hastings TN34-2AB. 80p.

HENDON: THE SLEEPING GIANT, Jeff Fox, 88 Ravenscroft Ave, Wembley, Middx HA9-9TG. 50p.

HEREFORD UTD: TALKING BULL, Chris Jones 45 Knightswood, Hampton Dene, Hereford. 60p.

HIBERNIAN: HIBBES HERE, HIBBES THERE, John Ewan, C/- 9 Woodfall Dr, Clayford, Kent DA1-4TN. 50p.

HULL CITY: TIGER RAG, Gary Hook, 4 Elm Villas, Keyingham, Hull HU12-9RW. 1.00 A4.

IPSWICH TOWN: DRIBBLE! Alastair Ross, 63 Woodbridge Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4-2EQ. 50p.

LEEDS UNITED: TILL THE WORLD STOPS, Pete Vale, 179 Grove St, Balderston, Newark, Notts NG24-3AS. 50p.

LEICESTER CITY: THE FOX, Gary Silke, P.O. Box 2, Cosby, Leicester LE19-1ZZ. 1.00. FILBO FEVER, C/O High St, Leicester. 70p.

LEYTON ORIENT: FRANKLY SPEAKING, Andy, C/o 191 Beehive Lane, Ilford, Essex. 50p.

LINCOLN CITY: DERANGED FERRET, Kevin Stow, 50 Kingsley St, Lincoln LN1-3JN. 75p.

LUTON TOWN: MAD AS A HATTER, Keith Hayward, 282 Luton Way, Luton LU3-2JS. 50p.

MACCLESFIELD TOWN: HANG 'EM UP, 62 Coare St, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10-1DW. 60p plus S.A.E.

MAN CITY: KING OF THE KIPPAX, Dave Wallace, 25 Holden Brook Ct, Leigh, Gtr Manchester WN7-2HL. 5 issues at 9:00 inc postage.

MANCHESTER UTD: WALKING DOWN THE WARWICK ROAD, Alan Haynes, 16 The Quantocks, Filtwick, Beds MK45-1TQ. 50p.

MATLOCK TOWN: KEEP OFF THE FENCE, Mark Hardy, 5 High Ct, Smith Rd, Matlock DE4-3JL. 50p.

MEADOWS: THE THISTLE, 21 Little Rd, Edinborough EH16-6SH. 1.00.

RED NEWS, P.O. Box 384, London WC1N-3RJ. 5:25 for 3 issues. Cheques to Red News.

MILLWALL: THE LION ROARS, TLC Towers, No12, 157-159 Bourdfield Rd, Catford SE6-1PE. 1.00.

NO-ONE LIKES US, 12 Bernard Mansions, London WC1N-1CB. 1.00.

NEWCASTLE UTD: THE MAG, Mark Jensen, 25 Low Friar St, New-c-Tyne NE1-5UE. 22:00 per season inc AIRPOST.

NEWPORT: RUN LADS SHOOT LADS, Mike Tasker, 34, New Pastures, Newport, Gwent NP9-3GF. 50p.

NORWICH CITY: I CAN DRIVE A TRACTOR, Darren Alcock, Melrose, Beccles Road, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31-9UL. 7:50 for 4 issues including Airpost.

LIVERPOOL ARE ON THE TELE AGAIN! Duke MacMaster, 18 Drake Close, Steeple-Tower, Hethersett, Norwich NR9-3JS. 70p A4.

FERRY CROSS THE WENSUM, 80 West End, Old Costessey, Norwich NR8-5AJ. 50p.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: FOREST FOREVER, Richard, 69 Frenleigh Ave, Mapperley, Nottingham NG3-6FN. 8:00 per season inc postage.

TRICKY TREE, 149 Blake Rd, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2-5LA. 50p plus P+P.

OLDHAM: BEYOND THE BOUNDARY, Pete Mason, 15 Oxford Hse, Suthers St, Werneth, Oldham OL3-7AF. 60P plus P+P.

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE: RUB OF THE GREENS, Tony Scowcroft, 14 Craven Way, Warrimley, Bristol BS15-5DR. 50p.

PRESTON M.E.: PRESTON PIE MUNCHER, Stephen Brennan, 10 Esplanade, Preston, Lancs PR1-4PF. 1.00.

DEEPALE RUDGE, Jonathan Richardson, 4 Church Ave, Penwortham, Preston PR1-0AH. 50p.

QPR: IN THE LOFT, Howard Prosser, 24 Woodham Rd, Carford, London SE6-2SD. 8 issues 17:50 inc postage.

RANGERS: FOLLOW, FOLLOW, Mark Dingwell, P.O. Box 539, Glasgow G11-7LT. 1.00.

ROCHDALE: EXCEEDINGLY GOOD PIES, Francis Collins, 447 Edenfield Rd, Norden, Rochdale, Lancs OL11-5YR. 50p.

ROTHERHAM UTD: MOULIN ROUGE, 178 Greatwood Ave, Skipton, Nth Yorks BD23-2SQ. 80p plus P+P.

SHEFFIELD UNITED: FLASHING BLADE, Matt Bell, 4 Cross Myrtle Rd, Sheffield S2-3EL. 50p.

SHEFFIELD WED.: WAR OF THE MONSTER TRUCKS, Matt Cooper, P.O. Box 485, Sheffield S6-4YY. 50P.

A VIEW FROM THE EAST BANK, Peter Holmes, P.O. Box 97, Sheffield S13-8YJ. 1.00 (A4 size).

BOODLE, Taff Boddie, 37 Park Ave, Darley Dale, Derby DE4-2FX. 8:00 for 5 issues.

SHREWSBURY TOWN: A LARGE SCOTCH, Kevin Bright, 15 York Rd, Harlescott Grange, Shrewsbury, Shrops SY1-3RD. 50p.

ST AUSTELL: Peter Hicks Wig, Tony Pearce, 5 Lower Woodside, St Austell, Cornwall. A4 size, 50p plus P+P.

STENHOUSEMUIR: THE DUFFLE, 19 Sutton Pk Cr, Stenhousemuir, Larbert FK5-4DB. 2:50 for 3 issues.

STOCKPORT COUNTY: THE TEA PARTY, Dave Espley, C/o 3 Dunlin Ct, Offerton, Stockport SK2-5UF. 1.00.

SUNDERLAND: WEAR ALL GOING TO WEMBLEY, Robert Nixon, P.O. Box 32, Whitley Bay NE25-9YX. 60p.

SUNDERLAND: A LOVE SUPREME, Martyn McFadden, P.O. Box 25, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE6-1QE. 60P plus P+P. ROKER ROAR, I R Roddon, Box 19, Sunderland SR1.

SWINDON TOWN: THE RANDY ROBIN, Matthew Arnold, 50 Westwood Rd, Old Town, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1-4HD. 50p.

THE 68ER, Anna Merriman, C/O 26 Bydemit Gdns, High-worth, Swindon, Wiltshire. 50p.

TORQUAY UTD: YOU WOT! Rick Heyse, PO Box 30, Torquay TQ1-4YD. 50p + P+P.

BAMBERS RIGHT FOOT, Hayden Jones, P.O. Box 77, Torquay, Devon TQ2-5YR. 50p plus P+P.

GULLIBLE GULLPOST, Chris Monna, 16 Osney Rd, Paignton, Devon TQ4-5HA. 50p Plus S.A.E.

TRAMMERE ROVERS: GIVE US AN R, Dr, 6 Rockybank Rd, Birkenhead, Merseyside L42-7LB. 1.00.

WALLSALL: BLAZING SADDLERS, Pete Holland, 8 Hol-lands Way, Pelsall, Wallsall WS3-5DH. 50p plus P+P. MOV-ING SWIFTLY ON, Andrew Polle, 10 Wood Lane, Short Heath, Wiltshire, West Mids WV12-3NE. 50p.

WEALDSTONE: THE ENMSLIE ENDER, Sudhi Rawal, 37 Grange Road, Kettering, Harrow, Middx HA2-1PR. 1:50 plus P+P. WEALDSTONE: TERRAZER A Miller, 4 Franklin Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT4-4QR. 60p per issue plus P+P.

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL: THE ABSOLUTE GAME, P.O. Box 303, Southern D.O. Edinburgh EH9-1NE. 12:00 for the season. Cheques to T.A.G.

Scottish Football: Non-League Review 1993/94, Stewart Davidson, 12 Windsor Rd, Renfrew, Scotland PA4-6SS. 2:00 plus P+P (1 issue per season).

WELSH FOOTBALL: TOO SEXY BY FAR, 23 Trem Y Ffridd, Bala, Gwynedd LL23-7DG. 1.00.

WELLING UTD: WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING, Dave Fitchell, 24 Swallow Ct, Greenhithe, Kent DA9-9PT. 50p.

WIGAN ATHLETIC: THE LATIC FANATIC, Andrew Werrill, 186 Hodges St, Wigan WN67JG. 1.00.

WIMBLEDON: Yidishol Colin Leonard, 35 Warwickshire Path, Deptford, London SE8-4LN. 50p plus SAE and P+P.

WILLENHALL: A LOAD OF LOCKS, Robert Fletcher, 10 Andrew Ct, Short Heath, Wilenhall, West Mids WV12-5PL. 60p.

WORKINGTON: NOTHING BOROUGH PARKS TEAM, Mark Humphrey, C/o 31 Berbery Ct, Boumville, Birming-ham B30-1TB. 50p.

W.B.A.: GRORTY DICK, Simon Wright, C/O 7 Rutlin Ct, Tipton, Staffs DY4-0AR. 13:00 for 8 issues inc postage.

THE ALBION CHRONICLE, James Holland, 15 Longue Dr, Calverton, Notts NG14-6QE. 50P.

YEOVIL TOWN: 5 Chafyn Grove, Corscombe, Dorset DT2-0QE. 50p.

NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

END 2 END: Alan Calder, Unit 12, Chiltem Hse, Waterside, Chesham, Bucks. 22:00 per season.

Prices quoted do NOT include Airmail Postage to Australia unless specifically stated. Please add 1.00 per issue for this. We only list those fanzines that we have "sighted" and can personally state as actually existing. Get into them. Please make cheques payable to the Editor where listed or the fanzine name where not — unless stated. For reasons of SAE, please take this to mean Self Addressed Envelope. All prices quoted are in Pounds Sterling.

Soccer

On the Phone

00555 2200

UK SCORES FROM
6.30 AM SUNDAYS

00555 0022
Australian Scores
InPho-25c/21 secs (premium)

'6 FROM 38 POOLS'

THE POOLS

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 499

SAT. 18th FEBRUARY, 1995

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	WATFORD	CRYSTAL P.	1
	BOLTON	BARNLEY	2
	BRISTOL C.	OLDHAM	3
	MIDDLESBRO	CHARLTON	4
	SOUTHEND	SHEFFIELD U.	5
	SUNDERLAND	PORTSMOUTH	6
	TRANMERE	READING	7
	WEST BROM	NOTTS COUNTY	8
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BIRMINGHAM	YORK	9
	BRADFORD C.	PETERBORO	10
	BRIGHTON	CREWE	11
	CAMBRIDGE U.	BLACKPOOL	12
	CHESTER	SHREWSBURY	13
	HUDDERSFIELD	CARDIFF	14
	HULL	STOCKPORT	15
	LEYTON O.	WREXHAM	16
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	OXFORD UTD	BRISTOL R.	17
	PLYMOUTH	BOURNEMOUTH	18
	WYCOMBE	ROTHERHAM	19
	BARNET	COLCHESTER	20
	DONCASTER	LINCOLN	21
	FULHAM	DARLINGTON	22
	GILLINGHAM	NORTHAMPTON	23
	HEREFORD	BURY	24
G.M. VAUXHALL CONFERENCE LEAGUE	PRESTON	CARLISLE	25
	ROCHDALE	EXETER	26
	SCARBORO	HARTLEPOOL	27
	SCUNTHORPE	CHESTERFIELD	28
	WALSALL	TORQUAY	29
	WIGAN A.	MANSFIELD	30
	ALTRINCHAM	FARNBORO	31
	BATH	HALIFAX	32
DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION	BROMSGROVE	RUNCORN	33
	DOVER	MACCLESFIELD	34
	GATESHEAD	MERTHYR T.	35
	KETTERING	WELLING UTD	36
	SOUTHPORT	NORTHWICH	37
	STAFFORD	KID'MINSTER	38
DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION	STALYBRIDGE	YEOVIL	39
	TELFORD	DAG'HAM & R.	40
	BISHOP AUCK	NORWICH	41
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	HYDE	DROYLSDEN	44
	KNOWSLEY UTD	EMLEY	45
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	CARSHALTON	WALTON & H.	48
	CHESHAM UTD.	BISHOPS S.	49
	GRAYS	DULWICH	50
	HARROW	ENFIELD	51
	HENDON	ST. ALBANS	52
	DUNDEE	RAITH	53
	Q. OF SOUTH	BRECHIN	54
DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION	ALBION R.	COWDENBEATH	55

RESERVE MATCHES

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	WATFORD	CRYSTAL P.	1
	BOLTON	BARNLEY	2
	BRISTOL C.	OLDHAM	3
	MIDDLESBRO	CHARLTON	4
	SOUTHEND	SHEFFIELD U.	5
	SUNDERLAND	PORTSMOUTH	6
	TRANMERE	READING	7
	WEST BROM	NOTTS COUNTY	8
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BIRMINGHAM	YORK	9
	BRADFORD C.	PETERBORO	10
	BRIGHTON	CREWE	11
	CAMBRIDGE U.	BLACKPOOL	12
	CHESTER	SHREWSBURY	13
	HUDDERSFIELD	CARDIFF	14
	HULL	STOCKPORT	15
	LEYTON O.	WREXHAM	16
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	OXFORD UTD	BRISTOL R.	17
	PLYMOUTH	BOURNEMOUTH	18
	WYCOMBE	ROTHERHAM	19
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	DONCASTER	LINCOLN	21
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	GRAYS	DULWICH	50
	HARROW	ENFIELD	51
	HENDON	ST. ALBANS	52
	DUNDEE	RAITH	53
	Q. OF SOUTH	BRECHIN	54
DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION	ALBION R.	COWDENBEATH	55

* F.A. CUP 5TH ROUND
† G.M. VAUXHALL CONFERENCE LEAGUE
‡ TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP 4TH ROUND
§ SCOTTISH DIVISION 2
§§ SCOTTISH DIVISION 3

GET YOUR POOLS IN

Don't forget
Pools Quick Pick

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 498

SAT. 11th FEBRUARY, 1995

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	LEEDS	IPSWICH	1	PP
	BARNLEY	TRANMERE	2	2-2
	CHARLTON	SUNDERLAND	3	1-0
	GRIMSBY	LUTON	4	5-0
	NOTTS COUNTY	SOUTHEND	5	2-2
	OLDHAM	MIDDLESBRO	6	PP
	PORT VALE	WEST BROM.	7	1-0
	READING	DERBY	8	1-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	SHEFFIELD UTD	STOKE	9	1-1
	WATFORD	BURNLEY	10	2-0
	WOLVES	BRISTOL C.	11	2-0
	BLACKPOOL	OXFORD UTD	12	2-1
	BOURNEMOUTH	BRIGHTON	13	0-3
	BRENTFORD	BRADFORD C.	14	4-3
	BRISTOL R.	CAMBRIDGE U.	15	PP
	CARDIFF	LEYTON O.	16	PP
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	CREWE	BIRMINGHAM	17	2-1
	PETERBORO	PLYMOUTH	18	1-2
	ROTHERHAM	SWANSEA	19	3-3
	SHREWSBURY	WYCOMBE	20	2-2
	STOCKPORT	CHESTER	21	2-2
	WREXHAM	HUDDERSFIELD	22	1-2
	YORK	HULL	23	PP
	BURY	BARNET	24	PP
UNIBOND L. PREM. DIV.	CARLISLE	HEREFORD	25	1-0
	CHESTERFIELD	GILLINGHAM	26	2-0
	COLCHESTER	ROCHDALE	27	0-0
	DARLINGTON	WIGAN A.	28	1-3
	HARTLEPOOL	DONCASTER	29	2-1
	LINCOLN	FULHAM	30	PP
	MANSFIELD	SCUNTHORPE	31	PP
	NORTHAMPTON	PRESTON	32	2-1
UNIBOND L. PREM. DIV.	TORQUAY	SCARBORO	33	PP
	ACCRINGTON	MATLOCK	34	0-2
	BARROW	GAINSBORO	35	1-0
	BOSTON	HORWICH	36	4-0
	DROYLSDEN	BUXTON	37	PP
	DULWICH	HENDON	38	1-0

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 0055 33111 Australia, Wide. Or, Sydney
0055 29043; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07)
11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.
Results are available from 8pm.
Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 11/2/95 WEEK 498

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURED										NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURED									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60

Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 498 SAT. FEBRUARY 11, 1995

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):

2, 5, 19, 20, 21, 24.

Supplementary Number 24.

THE LATEST UK RESULTS

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Barnsley.....2 Tranmere.....2
Charlton.....1 Sunderland.....0
Grimsby.....3 Luton.....0
Notts County.....2 Southend.....2
Port Vale.....1 W Bromwich.....0
Reading.....1 Derby.....0
Sheffield Utd.....1 Stoke.....1
Watford.....2 Burnley.....0
Wolverhampton.....2 Bristol City.....0
Postponed: Oldham v Middlesbrough,
Portsmouth v Millwall.

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

Blackpool.....2 Oxford.....1
Bournemouth.....0 Brighton.....3
Brentford.....4 Bradford.....3
Crewe.....2 Birmingham.....1
Peterborough.....1 Plymouth.....2
Rotherham.....3 Swansea.....3
Shrewsbury.....2 Wycombe.....2
Stockport.....2 Chester.....2
Wrexham.....1 Huddersfield.....2
Postponed: Bristol Rovers v Cam-
bridge, Cardiff v Leyton Orient, York v
Hull.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

Carlisle.....1 Hereford.....0
Chesterfield.....2 Gillingham.....0
Colchester.....0 Rochdale.....0
Darlington.....1 Wigan.....3
Northampton.....2 Preston.....1
Postponed: Bury v Barnet, Exeter v
Walsall, Hartlepool v Doncaster,
Lincoln v Fulham, Mansfield v
Scunthorpe, Torquay v Scarborough.

DIADORA LEAGUE

Dulwich.....1 Hendon.....0
Postponed: Hayes v Carshalton,
Hitchin v Harrow.

UNIBOND LEAGUE

Ac'gton Stanley.....0 Matlock.....2
Barrow.....1 Gborough.....0
Boston.....4 Horwich.....0
Postponed: Droylsden v Buxton.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Celtic.....2 Hibernian.....2
Hearts.....2 Kilmarnock.....2
Aberdeen.....2 Rangers.....0
Postponed: Dundee Utd v Falkirk,
Partick v Motherwell.

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

Ayr.....1 Dundee.....0
St Mirren.....1 Raith.....2
Postponed: Dunfermline v Stranraer,
St Johnstone v Hamilton.

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

Clyde.....1 Berwick.....3
Dumbarton.....4 Meadowbank.....0
Stirling.....0 Cnock Morton.....3
Postponed: Brechin v Stenhousemuir,
Queen of the South, East Fife.

SCOTTISH DIVISION THREE

Albion.....1 Caledonian.....2
Arbroath.....0 Queen's Park.....0
(Abandoned after 54 minutes —
driving rain)
Ross County.....6 Alloa.....0
Postponed: Cowdenbeath v East
Stirling, Forfar v Montrose.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE SUMMARIES

Arsenal 1 (Merson 52nd) Leicester 1 (Draper 78th) Halftime 0-0.
Attendance 31,373
Aston Villa 7 (Reeves 12th o.g., Johnson 22nd, 26th, 38th, Saunders 48th,
67th pen, Yorke 83rd) Wimbledon 1 (Barton 11th) 4-1. 23,932
Chelsea 1 (Wise 79th) Tottenham 1 (Sheringham 8th) 0-1. 30,812
Crystal Palace 0 Coventry 2 (Jones 7th, Dublin 85th) 0-0. 11,871
Liverpool 1 (Scales 71st) Queen's Park Rangers 1 (Gallen 5th) 0-1. 35,996
Manchester City 0 Manchester United 3 (Ince 58th, Kanchevskis 74th,
Cole 77th) 0-0. 26,368
Newcastle 2 (Fox 47th, Robert Lee 73rd) Nottingham Forest 1 (Jason Lee
74th) 0-0. 34,471
Norwich 2 (Newsome 37th, Ward 90th) Southampton 2 (Hall 33rd,
Magilton 36th) 1-2. 18,361
Blackburn 3 (Sherwood 26th minute, Atkins 35th, Shearer 66th)
Sheffield Wednesday 1 (Waddle 32nd). Halftime 2-1. Attendance: 22,223
Postponed: Leeds v Ipswich

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS DOWNUNDER

Yearning for past glories

Sunderland started out as "Sunderland and District Teachers AFC".

They played at Blue Hill field in 1879. The club moved grounds a number of times, unable to afford the various rents as an amateur club. In 1866 the side moved to Newcastle Road, turning professional in the same year. This caused their founder, Jimmy Allan, to walk out on the club and establish Sunderland Albion.

Under Tom Watson the club was rejuvenated, their main rivals Albion soon went bust, and Sunderland made the Football League in the League's third season in existence. The team's first season saw them deducted two points for an unapproved registration.

In 1891/92 Sunderland won the first division. The following season the title was again brought back to Newcastle Road by the Weariders. They came second in 1893/94 before again taking the title.

In 1895 the club won an FA Cup clash with Fairfield 11-1, the club's record win. In 1897/98 the side again came runners up, they also moved across the Wear to

YOUR
FAVOURITE
CLUB

BY STUART JONES

Sunderland



Roker Park.

In 1901/02 they finished first again conceding only 35 goals thanks to main to their Scottish International goalie Teddy Doig.

In 1908 Sunderland defeated local rivals Newcastle 9-1, but in 1911 were beaten 0-8 by Sheffield Wednesday. In 1912/13 Sunderland nearly became the first team this century to win the double. They took out the league by four points from Aston Villa, and made the FA Cup final as well, only to lose 0-1 to Villa.

From 1900 through to WWI the Roker Park crowds were very unruly. Referees had to be disguised to get out

of the ground, pitch invasions often occurred, stones were thrown at away teams, in 1909 a Police horse was stabbed, and Roker was often overcrowded.

In 1913 the Roker end was extended and extra security was paid for to alleviate some of these problems.

After World War I Sunderland did fairly well, they even beat Liverpool 7-0, Buchan scoring five (a club record repeated in 1935 and 1962 by R Gurney and D Sharkey respectively). They finished fifth in 1919/20, and in 1922/23 were again runners up in Division One.

Through the 1920s the

club remained a force in league football. In 1928/29 Dave Halliday scored 43 goals for the club.

They stayed in Division One in the early 1930s and on the 8th of March 1933 75,118 people saw Derby defeat the local side in extra time in a replay of the sixth round FA Cup clash.

In 1935/36 Sunderland dominated the league to take it out by eight points. In their team was a great player, Raich Carter, who played at inside forward.

Sunderland scored a club record 109 goals that season and lost only twice at home. The following year Carter, Gurney, and Burbanks all scored for Sunderland as they defeated Preston North End 3-1 to win their first FA Cup.

WWII saw Roker Park bombed in both March and May 1943. By 1949/50 Sunderland were again finishing amongst the top three in the country. In 1954 Derek Foster played for the club at just 15 years 184 days, Division One's youngest ever player.

After finishing third last in 1957, William Murray, the club's manager since 1939,

left the club. The following season Sunderland finished second last to be relegated for the very first time. Two other clubs had finished level on points, including Newcastle, but Sunderland's goal difference was by far the worst.

The club came third in 1962/63 losing out on promotion on goal difference to Chelsea, Sunderland losing at home 0-1 on the last day of the season to Chelsea. They recovered from that loss to win promotion the following season by coming second. Sunderland remained in Division One until 1970 but always finished in the lowest quarter of the table, in 1968 they were even beaten 0-8 by West Ham, this record loss equalled by Watford's effort in 1982.

In 1969/70 Sunderland came second last and were relegated. In 1972/73 the side met mighty Leeds United in the FA Cup final. In a huge upset the second division side beat Leeds 1-0 to take the Cup. Ian Porterfield was Sunderland's goal scoring hero. 1973/74 was Sunderland's only European campaign, and they lost in

LEAGUE HONOURS

NICKNAME: Rokerites
HONOURS: Division One 1891/92, 1892/93, 1894/95, 1901/02, 1912/13, 1935/36.
Division Two 1975/76
Division Three 1987/88
FA Cup 1937, 1973
GROUND: Roker Park, Grantham Road, Roker, Sunderland, SR6 9SW.

the second round to Sporting Lisbon.

In 1975/76 Sunderland took out Division Two but their return to Division One only lasted a season as they finished third last and were relegated back down.

Season 1980/81 saw first division football played at Roker Park once again. In 1984/85 the side was relegated once more and remained in the lower divisions until the end of the decade. 1984/85 saw them lose in the League Cup final 0-1 to Norwich.

Times got even worse when in 1986/87 Sunderland were relegated to Division Three for the first time. The side was good enough to win that Division on the first, and only attempt.

In 1989/90 Sunderland lost 0-1 to Swindon in the play-off final, they had actually finished sixth. Swindon were caught up in financial irregularities, and

Sunderland were handed their place in Division One. Sunderland came second last in their first season back in the top flight.

Since then the club has remained just out of the top flight and have struggled to avoid another drop, avoiding relegation in 1991/92 by one place. Their only real glory in the past four seasons has been their appearance in the FA Cup final in 1991/92 when John Byrne could not continue his goal scoring efforts of all the other rounds, and Liverpool won 2-0.

The Rokerites hope to move to a new super stadium but are still searching, and have had some major backers reportedly drop their interest. Newcastle's success has left Sunderland behind and the Rokerite supporters want this turned around so that they can become the top club in the North East once again.

(AS OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13) ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Blackburn	28	19	5	4	61	25	62
Man. Utd	28	18	6	4	51	21	60
Newcastle	28	14	9	5	47	30	51
Liverpool	27	13	9	5	46	22	48
Nottingham Forest	28	13	7	8	41	31	46
Tottenham	27	12	7	8	45	38	43
Leeds	26	10	9	7	34	28	39
Sheff Wed	28	10	9	9	37	36	39
Wimbledon	27	10	6	11	32	47	36
Norwich	27	9	8	10	27	31	35
Aston Villa	28	8	10	10	39	37	34
Arsenal	28	8	10	10	31	32	34
Chelsea	27	8	9	10	35	38	33
Man. City	27	8	8	11	35	44	32
Southampton	27	6	13	8	39	44	31
QPR	26	8	7	11	39	45	31
Coventry	28	7	10	11	27	45	31
Crystal Palace	28	7	9	12	21	28	30
Everton	27	7	9	11	27	36	30
West Ham	26	8	4	14	24	33	28
Ipswich	27	5	5	17	29	55	20
Leicester	27	4	7	16	25	46	19

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bolton	30	14	9	7	50	32	51
Wolverhampton	29	15	5	9	52	39	50
Tranmere	30	14	8	8	48	35	50
Reading	30	14	8	8	35	27	50
Middlesbrough	28	14	7	7	41	26	49
Watford	30	12	11	7	35	28	47
Sheffield United	30	12	10	8	48	34	46
Grimsby	30	11	11	8	47	40	44
Barnsley	28	12	6	10	36	36	42
Luton	29	11	7	11	38	40	40
Millwall	28	10	10	8	36	32	40

- T - A - B - L - E - S -

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Charlton	29	10	9	10	43	45	39
Derby	29	10	9	10	35	31	39
Oldham	29	10	8	11	39	38	38
Southend	30	10	6	14	31	54	36
Stoke	28	9	9	10	29	34	36
Port Vale	28	9	8	11	34	36	35
West Bromwich	30	9	7	14	25	36	34
Portsmouth	29	8	9	12	30	41	33
Swindon	27	8	8	11	36	43	32
Sunderland	29	6	14	9	28	29	32
Bristol City	30	8	6	16	25	41	30
Burnley	27	6	9	12	28	40	27
Notts County	31	6	8	17	33	45	26

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Huddersfield	29	15	9	5	51	34	54
Birmingham	27	15	8	4	49	19	53
Crewe	28	16	4	8	56	47	52
Wycombe	27	14	8	5	40	30	50
Blackpool	30	15	4	11	50	48	49
Oxford	28	14	5	9	45	37	47
Hull	28	13	6	9	47	38	45
Bristol Rovers	25	11	10	4	43	24	43
Stockport	28	13	4	11	43	37	43
Bradford	29	12	7	10	41	42	43
Wrexham	26	11	8	7	44	34	41
York	27	12	5	10	38	27	41
Swansea	27	9	12	6	35	29	39
Rotherham	28	9	8	11	38	38	35
Brighton	27	8	10	9	30	34	34
Shrewsbury	29	8	8	13	38	40	32
Peterborough	28	7	11	10	34	50	32
Cambridge	29	7	9	13	39	53	30
Plymouth	28	7	5	16	30	59	26
Bournemouth	30	5	7	18	28	57	22

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Cardiff	28	5	6	17	27	46	21
Leyton Orient	28	5	5	18	22	43	20
Chester	29	3	7	19	23	56	16
Carlisle	28	19	8	1	49	17	65
Chesterfield	27	14	7	6	37	26	49
Walsall	24	13	7	4	43	24	46
Doncaster	28	12	8	8	35	23	44
Bury	23	17	6	5	32	17	42
Scunthorpe	27	11	5	10	48	38	41
Colchester	27	11	8	8	37	38	41
Preston	28	12	5	11	35	29	41
Mansfield	27	12	4	11	52	40	40
Barnet	25	11	6	8	33	33	39
Torquay	27	10	8	9	37	36	38
Fullham	27	9	11	7	32	31	38
Rochdale	27	9	7	11	33	48	34
Lincoln	26	9	7	10	31	29	34
Darlington	26	9	6	11	32	34	33
Wigan	26	8	6	12	37	41	30
Exeter	25	7	5	13	20	38	26
Hereford	28	6	7	15	31	51	25
Gillingham	26	6	6	14	27	38	24
Northampton	27	5	9	13	23	36	24
Hartlepool	25	6	6	13	23	39	24
Scarborough	26	4	6	16	27	48	18

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rangers	25	15	6	4	43	21	51
Hibernian	25	8	13	4	36	25	37
Motherwell	24	9	9	6	36	36	36
Celtic	25	6	15	4	26	23	33
Hearts	25	9	5	11	32	35	32
Kilmarnock	25	7	9	9	31	34	30
Aberdeen	25	6	9	10	30	32	27

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Falkirk	24	6	9	9	31	37	27
Dundee Utd	23	6	8	9	29	37	26
Partick	23	5	7	11	23	37	22

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Dundee	25	14	5	6	44	27	47
Raith	25	13	8	4	42	26	47
Dunfermline	24	12	8	4	45	24	44
Airdrie	24	12	8	4	39	22	44
St Johnstone	24	9	10	5	39	28	37
Hamilton	24	9	6	9	26	31	33
Clydebank	24	4	9	11	20	30	21
Ayr	25	4	8	13	22	44	20
St Mirren	25	3	10	12	20	39	19
Stranraer	24	4	4	16	20	46	16

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Stenhousemuir	22	10	9	3	28	19	39
Dumbarton	23	11	5	7	37	25	38
Greenock Morton	23	11	5	7	31	21	38
Berwick	23	11	4	8	37	34	37
Clyde	23	9	6	8	37	31	33
Stirling	23	10	3	10	31	30	33
East Fife	22	9	4	9	32	34	31
Queen Of South	22	7	6	9	27	31	27
Meadowbank	23	7	4	12	26	33	22
Brechin	22	4	2	16	16	44	14

MEADOWBANK DEDUCTED 3 PTS FOR FIELDING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER

SCOTTISH DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Forfar	22	13	4	5	32	21	43
Ross County	23	12	5	6	42	25	41
East Stirling	20	11	3	6	37	26	36
Alloa	23	10	6	7	34	33	36
Montrose	19	10	5	4	33	18	35
Cowdenbeath	22	10	5	7	36	27	35
Caledonian Thistle	22	8	7	7	33	37	31
Queen's Park	22	6	4	12	27	38	22
Arbroath	22	3	4	15	22	44	13
Albion	21	2	3	16	16	43	9

Soccer

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6.30 AM SUNDAYS

WEEKEND MATCH PROGRAM



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ROUND 19 NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

LIVE BROADCASTS MAY BE HEARD
ON RADIO
2GB 3WRB 5RPH
AND

"SOCCER NATIONAL'S" 1539AM - 3RG
IN VICTORIA. 1593 - 2RF IN SYDNEY,
AND 801AM IN REGIONAL NSW.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18



BRISBANE STRIKERS v SYDNEY UNITED
Perry Park - 7.00PM



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18



MARCONI FAIRFIELD v HEIDELBERG UTD
Marconi Stadium - 7.30PM



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19



MELB. KNIGHTS v MELBOURNE SC
Melb. Croatian Sports Centre - 6.30PM



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19



SYDNEY OLYMPIC v MORWELL FALCONS
Leichhardt Oval - 6.30PM



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19



WOLLONGONG CITY v P'MATTA EAGLES
Brandon Park - 6.30PM



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22



STH MELBOURNE v WEST ADELAIDE
Olympic Park - 8.00PM



ADELAIDE CITY v BYE



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